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WASHINGTON.

SEEKING FOR INFORMATION.

DEMOCRATIC INVESTIGATING COMMITTEES LISTENING TO QUESTIONABLE AUTHORITIES—CORRECT KNOWLEDGE SEEMINGLY OF LITTLE CONSEQUENCE.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—The Democratic committees are seeking information, in their efforts at retrenchment and investigation, from a class of persons that may properly be called discharged employes. There are ex-Consols, ex-clerks, and ex-officers of various kinds, either called before committees as witnesses, or called for private consultation. Now and then witnesses not of this class are examined, but their evidence is not of the kind wanted. The Committee on Appropriations have asked for very little information of any kind. They have set out to reduce the Appropriation bills forty millions, and knowledge is not at all likely to facilitate the reductions. It is a great deal easier to lop away expenditures promiscuously than to study where expenditures can be reduced with least loss to the public service. The committee proposes to reduce the appropriations for Congress, the Courts, and the Executive Departments from five to seven millions; but in respect to the departments, they are calling few of the responsible officers to ask them what clerks can best be spared, or what salaries can be reduced. They cut away heads of important divisions in the Treasury Department without knowing anything about the nature of the duties performed, or the real value of the officers struck off. Bureaus already so low in the number of clerks that the current work is with great difficulty kept up to date, are slashed away so that at the end of the year the work must be in arrears, to the great annoyance of people interested in the business and to the danger of public losses. The prompt examination of accounts of disbursing officers by the Auditors is of the utmost importance. It was when these accounts accumulated for many months, on account of the lack of clerks to keep up to current dates, that several large defalcations became possible which would have been confined to small amounts if prompt examinations had been possible. In some of the offices the Democratic parsimony and blindness will have the result of making possible just such defalcations again as were discovered in completing the investigations of old accounts which accumulated after the war, and the attempt to save a few clerks for political effect may end, and certainly will have a tendency to end, in the loss of millions. There are doubtless some offices where the heads have managed to retain a larger force than necessary, for all bureau officers, of course, like to control as large a force of clerks as possible. Such offices can by proper inquiry be found out, and the application of the pruning knife would be applauded. But many of the bureaus are now overworked, and could not lose one clerk more without damage to the public service. Treasurer New, who is one of the best executive officers in the departments, finds that he can, of his own accord, make a reduction of fifty clerks. He tells the committee he is willing to go to the very verge in economy in this respect, and he cannot make a greater reduction and surround the great money vaults containing the treasure of the Government with proper safeguards. "Then leave the vaults open," the committee say, "for we are determined not to give you the force you deem necessary." The proposition to reduce salaries without asking how it may best be done is of a similar character. There are here and there clerks and officers who are overpaid, considering the work they do. Probably no immense organization like a department could be kept free of such cases. But all the prominent positions are underpaid, and the reduction of ten per cent. in salaries will create disgust, dampen spirit and enthusiasm for work, and invite to laziness, and even crime, for it is the dissatisfied men that steals. The reductions in force will, so far as their personal and political effects are concerned, react upon the authors of them. The Administration has been by no means proscriptive in its management of the departments, and while few Democrats have been appointed, few have been dismissed because they were Democrats. The clerks to be cut off by order of the Democratic House will be of that class, and they will no doubt, when the time comes for dismissals, be diligently inquired out. They have their Democratic majority to thank for their uncomfortable situation, and they are rapidly becoming good Republicans, if hatred of their natural protectors can make them so. No Democrat has more friends in office, if current rumors can be credited, than Samuel J. Randall, the joint author with Mr. Holman of the proposition to save $40,000,000. He, no doubt, trusts the Senate to save the departments and himself the consequences of the reductions, but many leading Senators express the purpose to advocate the passage of the bills in that body just as the House sends them over for concurrence, and leave the responsibility with the House, which has no desire but to make party capital for next Summer.

THE RESUMPTION ACT.

THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT'S COMMUNICATION TO THE HOUSE—AMOUNT OF COIN PURCHASED AND OF INTEREST-BEARING BONDS SOLD.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—The Treasury Department will, within a day or two, send two important communications to the House in answer to resolutions of inquiry by that body. One is an answer to the questions propounded by Mr. Kelley as to the amount of silver coin on hand, the amounts of silver purchased, and of interest-bearing bonds sold under the provisions of the Resumption act. It will be remembered that he presented specific and detailed interrogatories as to the operation of that act. The answer will be given in detail, and will be satisfactory at least in its completeness. Mr. Kelley desires to use the information in favor of the repeal of the law and the passage of a measure of inflation. He will probably learn that purchases of silver have been made in the aggregate amount of about nine millions of dollars, and that interest-bearing bonds have been sold, under the provisions of the law, to the amount of about fifteen millions, for the purpose of paying for silver bullion and retiring legal tenders, as required by the law. The latter statement is the point of Kelley's inquiry, for he wants to show that the enforcement of the law, in addition to the unnumbered woes of contraction which he is ready to depict, is placing additional burdens upon the people in the matter of interest. Of course the interest is the only amount in dispute, for the silver that has been bought is worth as much as the bonds sold; and as the greenbacks are a debt of the Government, their retirement and displacement by bonds is only a change in the form of the debt which the law contemplated. In regard to the circulation of silver coin, it may be said in this connection that fractional currency is now worth a little more in comparison with gold and silver bullion, and if there could be any assurance that there would be no large and permanent rise in gold, silver coin could be safely put in circulation. The department is rapidly accumulating coin, and the time now appears to be not far distant when the fractional currency may be retired; but no step will be taken till the Treasury is fortified against all contingencies. So far as the interest on the $40,000,000 of bonds, which will be required to replace fractional notes, is a part of the debt is concerned, it would be less in amount annually than the present cost of replacing continually the paper that is worn out and rendered unfit for service. The same statement is nearly true of the cost of maintaining the greenback notes in circulation. The specific and authoritative statement will be an interesting document, and will afford facts for much discussion.

CONGRESSIONAL TOPICS.

MR. HEWITT'S RESOLUTION OF INQUIRY TO BE ANSWERED TO-DAY—THE CONTRACTION OF THE CURRENCY—THE PACIFIC RAILROAD SUBSIDY—THE CENTENNIAL BILL.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—The resolution passed by the House on the motion of Mr. Hewitt, of New-York, will be answered to-morrow. His inquiries did not of themselves disclose the purpose of his resolution, which is explained as requesting information which will show whether legal-tender notes paid into the Treasury by national banks to retire their notes really produce a contraction of the currency. To illustrate: A bank desires to withdraw $50,000 of its own notes, and to reclaim the bonds deposited in the United States Treasury, to secure them; it cannot gather up its scattered notes at once, and instead sends to the Treasury $50,000 legal tenders, and gets back its bonds. Mr. Hewitt wants to know whether the $50,000 is treated by the Treasury as ordinary receipts and is paid out again in course of business for current expenses, or is set apart as a fund by itself, to redeem the notes of the bank as they may be presented. The answer to this inquiry of Mr. Hewitt's, if this be the point of it, is that the legal tenders so received are kept in a fund by themselves for the specific purpose for which they are received, and they do not go into general circulation except as the notes which they are kept to redeem are presented and destroyed. There is therefore a real contraction of the circulation by the amounts of greenbacks paid in for the surrender of bank notes.

The subcommittee of the Committee on Pacific Railroads have agreed to the bill granting Col. Tom Scott a subsidy, and will report it to the full committee at their next meeting. Mr. Atkins has it in charge, and he hopes the full committee will agree to the bill, so that it can be reported to the House on Wednesday, when committees are called. It is now certain that Col. Scott will be able to push his bill to a square vote in the House. There is yet no means of making a satisfactory estimate of the probable vote, but the passage of the bill is generally regarded as very doubtful. Of course, if it fails in the House, the Senate will be spared the opportunity to show how it can resist the tremendous pressure that has been arranged to operate upon it if the bill should get through the House.

The Centennial bill will probably be brought up in the Senate to-morrow, and an effort may be made to set the Pinchback case aside to consider it. It is more likely that it will only gain a place in the morning hour, where it will be taken up daily and discussed a little till the Pinchback case is out of the way. Under the action of the Democratic caucus the vote may be taken without much delay on the Pinchback resolution, but that is after all doubtful. There is now manifested a little stronger opposition than was expected, and the partisans of Pinchback cannot name one Senator of those who were against his admission last Spring who has changed his purpose of opposition. The result of the vote is quite in doubt, and in a full Senate will be close.

Treasurer New proposes to resign his present position at an early day, probably at the close of the present fiscal year. This determination has been caused entirely by his private affairs, his principal partner in the banking business at Indianapolis being forced to retire from the management of his bank in consequence of failing health. Mr. New, when relieved from his present public duties, will return to Indianapolis and assume charge of the bank as its president. The Treasurer has communicated his purpose to resign to Secretary Bristow, who is reluctant to part with him, and indulges the hope that some arrangement will be made by Mr. New which will enable him to continue to serve as Treasurer.

The answer of the Treasury Department to the inquiry of the House as to Customs offices where the Customs receipts are not equal to the cost of maintaining them, is now ready. It shows that the number of such offices is fifty-seven, Sixteen of them are in New-England, and two—Dunkirk and Sag Harbor—are in New-York Three are in New-Jersey. Alexandria and Georgetown, in this District, do not pay the expenses by receipts. Brownsville, Texas, has the largest deficiency. It will be found on examination that most of these offices will have to be maintained to prevent smuggling, but the House will no doubt attempt to abolish some of them, or at least to reduce the expenses.

BILLS IN THE HOUSE.

PROTECTION OF NEW-YORK HARBOR FROM INJURY BY DUMPING REFUSE—USELESS SLAUGHTER OF BUFFALOES.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—Mr. Schumaker has introduced a bill providing that no street-sweepings, earth, ballast from vessels, ashes, swill, garbage, dead animals, decayed or other fruits or vegetables, or rubbish of any kind, or any articles that will not float shall be dumped or deposited in New-York Bay, or in the rivers adjoining the City of New-York, or in the waters of the Atlantic Ocean within five miles of Sandy Hook, or in the Hudson or East Rivers, or Long Island Sound west of Middle Ground Shoal, under a penalty of from fifty to one thousand dollars for each offense, and imprisonment, two-thirds of the amount of the fine to be paid to the person who furnishes the information which leads to conviction. The bill authorizes the District Attorneys of the Southern and Eastern Districts of New-York to appoint four special officers who shall have power to arrest all persons found violating the law, and gives the same authority to make arrests to the Police of New-York and Brooklyn. The salaries of the four special officers provided for in the bill are not to exceed the salaries of New-York patrolmen.

A bill has been introduced in the House to prevent the useless slaughter of buffaloes within the Territories of the United States. It is made unlawful for any person not an Indian to kill, wound, or in any manner destroy any female buffalo of any age found at large within the Territories. It is also made unlawful for any person to kill or wound a greater number of male buffaloes than needed for food by the hunter, or than can be used, cured or preserved for the food of others, or for the market. One hundred dollars for each buffalo is the penalty prescribed. Western men say that the wanton destruction of buffaloes on the plains makes necessary some measure for protecting these animals from annihilation within a brief period.

THE PRESIDENT AND CABINET.

FALSE RUMORS OF INHARMONY BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND GEN. BRISTOW.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—There have been several stories put afloat in the past week in regard to a quarrel between the President and Secretary Bristow, and again between the Secretary and Senator Conkling. The various forms in which the stories have been served up would require several columns of THE TIMES for a mere statement of them. They are persistently repeated until some incredulous people are really said to believe that there is serious trouble in the Cabinet. This makes it seem desirable to say that the subject which was said to have been the occasion of the trouble in the Cabinet was not mentioned, neither during the meeting nor before nor after it. The stories are unadulterated inventions. The report of a difficulty between the Secretary and Senator Conkling, in which the latter is said to have left the Secretary's office declaring he would never enter it again, is also false. The two gentlemen have not met for a month, perhaps, certainly not during that time in the Secretary's office, and the supposed subject of controversy has not been mentioned between them.

NOTES FROM THE CAPITAL.

THE MEXICAN RAIDS INTO TEXAS—AUTHORIZED SALE OF A LARGE CLAIM—SANITARY AND MEDICAL REPORTS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—Mr. Howe, having been relieved as Special Treasury Agent at New-York, will be assigned to another position equally responsible. It is said arrangements to this end were commenced before he was superseded by Mr. Hale.

Information has recently been received by Representative Hancock to the effect that Mexican raids into Texas continue, but which might in part be prevented if there were more efficient troops on the border.

By a decree of the District Court, the Receiver of the First National Bank is authorized to sell a part of the claim of the First National Bank against Jay Cooke & Co., amounting to $470,727, in which a dividend of five per cent. has been paid to Henry D. Cooke, Jr., for assignment, and surrendered by Cooke, Jr., for the cancellation of valid claims against the bank, amounting to $350,000 originally, on which dividends aggregating seventy-five per cent. have been paid, upon condition that the sale to Cook shall be without recourse to the bank or received individually, and shall not include or imply the right of Cook to collect or receive any part of the five per cent. paid by the Trustee in Bankruptcy, and the assignment of the bank's claim shall not prejudice or affect any claim asserted, or which may be asserted by the bank or Receiver, against the assets or estate of the firm.

A large volume has been issued from the office of the Surgeon General of the Navy, treating of matters of great importance to all who follow the sea as a profession. Although the papers, of which there are seventy-eight, are wholly written by naval officers, much contained in them will be found of interest to the merchant marine; such as the description and mode of administration of hospitals, prevailing diseases—endemic and epidemic—climatology, topography, source and character of the water supply, with tests for its purity, provisions and other items of general interest found in the various centres of trade and principal seaports of the world. The important question of ventillation, as well as other subjects of hygiene pertaining to ships at sea, are fully discussed, and many suggestions made which, if duly considered and put in practice, would add materially to the comfort of all persons who spend the greater part of their life at sea.

Messrs. Hammond and Bently, revivalists, held three meetings here to-day, thus inaugurating a series of revival exercises that, it is understood, will continue for several weeks. Intense interest was manifested, and great throngs, notwithstanding the very bad weather, attended the services.

The President has recognized Frederick Ferdinand Myhlertz as Vice Consul of Denmark at Philadelphia.

REGISTER FOR FOREIGN SHIPS.

A BARK SAVED BY TRANSFER TO A FOREIGN FLAG—HER PRESENT DISADVANTAGES.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—Some time ago a petition was presented to the House of Representatives by Charles Brewer & Co., of Boston, asking that an American register be granted to the Hawaiian bark Arctic, owned by that firm. The Committee on Commerce, to whom the petition was referred, made a favorable report, and recommended that the bill reported by them be passed, basing their recommendation on the action of the Government in similar cases. The facts of the case are as follows: It appears that the bark was built at Rochester, Mass., in 1850; was purchased by Messrs. Brewer & Co. in 1861, and was used by them in carrying, from New-Bedford and Boston to Honolulu, supplies for the American whaling fleet in the North Pacific. This was a highly important service, and any interruption of it would have caused a serious injury to American interests. In 1863 it was found necessary, in order to prevent the capture and destruction of the vessel by rebel cruisers which then infested the Pacific Ocean, to place her under the Hawaiian flag; and that was accordingly done, although the service and the ownership continued unchanged. It is evident, from what took place immediately after the transfer to a foreign flag, that the vessel would have been captured if the transfer had not been made, thereby depriving the whalers of supplies necessary to the continued pursuit of their vocation. The vessel continued in this business until 1869, when she was fitted at New-Bedford as a whale ship, and from that time to the present has been engaged in the whale fishery, refitting from time to time at Honolulu, and shipping her catch of oil and bone to New-Bedford. Being under a foreign flag, although owned and commanded by American citizens, her oil is subject to a duty of twenty per cent. ad valorem, and she cannot enter an American port without being subject to tonnage dues. The owners, therefore, labor under a serious disadvantage in carrying on their business, and, considering the circumstances which forced them to seek protection under another flag, they feel justified in asking the Government to cure the disability under which they labor by the grant of an American register.

MARINE DISASTERS.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 6.—The revenue cutter Colfax reports schooners H. M. Hisser, Williams, Philadelphia, for Baltimore, in ballast; Starlight, Travers, Cambridge, for Baltimore, with an assorted cargo, and oyster-pungy Great Western, Gallend, Pool's Island, for Baltimore, ashore at Rock Creek. Twelve bay craft are reported ashore in Magothy River. These disasters were caused by the gale of Wednesday morning.

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 6.—The United States steamer Juniata, from Pensacola, to be stationed here as a receiving ship, arrived to-day.

THE WHISKY CONSPIRACIES.

PREPARING FOR THE BABCOCK TRIAL

ST. LOUIS IN A STATE OF EXPECTANCY—THE OPENING ARGUMENTS TO BE MADE BY MR. DYER AND MR. STORRS ON THE RESPECTIVE SIDES—THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY AND THE UNITED STATES MARSHAL—MR. LUCKY'S CIPHER DISPATCHES.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 6.—Nothing of a startling or sensational character has occurred to-day in "crooked whisky" circles, and even the gossips seem to have subsided for the time being. Doubtless it is the calm which precedes the storm, and by to-morrow morning there will be a thorough revival of popular excitement by the Babcock trial. It is thought that all of to-morrow, and perhaps a part of Tuesday, will be exhausted in securing a jury. District Attorney Dyer will make the opening speech for the prosecution, and Emory Storrs for defendant. A sensational report was published this morning to the effect that a serious clash had occurred between the District Attorney and the United States Marshal, on account of the alleged efforts of the latter to pack a jury to acquit. The assertion was that Marshal Leffingwell and his assistant, Henry T. Mudd, with such assistance as D. W. H. Barnard could give them, selected from outside of St. Louis the names of those known to be Republicans now, and loyal during the war. In this way, of course, all the new jurors would be on the same political side, and the rebel element, talked about so freely of late in Washington, eliminated. Both the District Attorney and the United States Marshal stated to THE TIMES correspondent to-night that there is no truth whatever in the report, and that no dissension has occurred between any of the court officials.

Gen. Sherman called to see Gen. Babcock to-day and had an hour's conversation with him. A number of other prominent officials and citizens called to-day to testify their continued confidence in Babcock.

It seems to be now positively settled that the President will come to St. Louis to testify in behalf of his friend and secretary. He will not be summoned, but will keep himself in readiness to come when telegraphed for. The mysterious witness, Abijah M. Everest, who has been keeping himself from the public gaze so long, has reappeared on the streets, and it is understood that he will be a very material witness for the Government in the Babcock case.

Gen. Babcock dined to-day at the residence of Col. Morrison, whose wife is an old friend and school-mate of the General's wife.

The *Times* several weeks ago announced the fact that during the Avery trial Mr. Luckey, private secretary of the President, was here closely watching all the movements, and daily communicating with Gen. Babcock by cipher telegrams. These telegrams consisted of disconnected words in common use, but conveying no idea whatever to the person reading them, unless he should have a key to the cipher. These telegrams are among those which have been secured by the *duces tecum*. Whether or not the Government can solve these riddles and prove the contents of the dispatches, can only be conjectured. Judge Krum spent a busy hour of yesterday in examining and copying those telegrams which have come into the possession of the United States Court. They did not seem to strike terror to his soul, for he perused them with a rather bland expression, and evidently deemed them no "big guns."

Among the telegrams obtained by the Government attorneys, upon an order from the court, are several dispatches which have passed between Babcock and his counsel in this city. This unusual action is regarded by legal gentlemen here as an unhappy precedent. Counsel for the defense claim that they will show before the close of the trial the person who has from the first been the leading spirit of the Whisky Ring. It is expected that Gen. Grant will be here Wednesday or Thursday. The Government has about twenty-five witnesses in all, whose evidence is largely documentary. It is expected that the trial will be postponed until Tuesday by Judge Dillon.

AN EXPLANATION OF THE LETTERS AND DISPATCHES BETWEEN M'DONALD, JOYCE AND BABCOCK.

Dispatch to the Associated Press.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 6.—Judge John K. Porter, counsel for Gen. Babcock, and C. C. Sniffin, assistant secretary of President Grant, arrived to-day, and are quartered at the Lindell Hotel. It is stated on authority of Judge Krum, that the President will come out here during the trial, and probably be a witness for the defense. The *Times* this morning gives the following, upon high authority, as the manner in which the defense expect to explain the letters and telegrams which passed between McDonald, Joyce, and Babcock, regarding contemplated visits to St. Louis of revenue agents to examine distilleries. These dispatches will be admitted by the defense as genuine, and even the purpose of the dispatches will be admitted; but it will be represented that both McDonald and Joyce were held in the highest esteem as gentlemen and officials by all the Treasury officials and many dignataries at Washington; that their superior officers regarded them as among the most honorable, trustworthy, and efficient revenue officials in the service, as well as true and devoted friends of the Administration; that such confidence was reposed in them by their superiors in office as to induce Gen. Babcock to receive them on terms of intimacy, and even consult them sometimes on important State matters; that they boasted of the powerful political influence they possessed in Missouri, and that they were constantly and earnestly working for the good of the Administration, and were gradually and surely adding to the strength of that party in this State. Under such influences, it will be represented, Gen. Babcock felt safe in complying with almost any request they made of him, being confident that to grant it was for the good of the public service and the Republican Party. That he saw officers, higher in position than himself, yield to the requests and gladly receive and adopt the advice of McDonald especially. Hence he honestly believed he was doing right in advancing any measure Gen. McDonald advocated upon the explanation made by the latter. Under such influences, and honestly believing he was doing right, and giving proper advice to two of the most trustworthy officers of the Government, who would use it with discretion, and for the good of the service, the defense will represent that Gen. Babcock did send certain telegrams of the character named, but will stoutly deny and offer evidence to prove that he never received a dollar from McDonald or Joyce, or imagined that a Whisky Ring existed. Testimony will also be introduced, of course, to sustain the relations of Babcock and McDonald as explained above.

NEW DISCOVERIES IN CHICAGO.

CLOSE ALLIANCE BETWEEN THE CHICAGO AND THE ST. LOUIS RINGS—THE CHICAGO ROGUES KEPT INFORMED BY THOSE IN ST. LOUIS—GEN. BABCOCK'S DEFENSE

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

CHICAGO, Feb. 6.—There are several new discoveries in Chicago whisky matters, by which the Government has obtained information tending to prove a connection between the Ring in this city and that in St. Louis. The information said to be in possession of Government officers is reported to be very conclusive and convincing, tending to show by correspondence and telegrams between Rehm, Hesing, and others, in this city, and several leaders in St. Louis, that both factions worked with unanimity in devising ways and means to defraud the Government of its revenue. From the documents now lying in the vault of the District Attorney's office it can be established beyond peradventure that the conspiracy existing between the residents of the two cities was a mutual one, and that each assisted the other in a wholesale robbery of the Treasury. From the same source and from the verbal testimony of several who have made confession it can be established, it is thought, that the Chicago Ring obtained its information in regard to the movements of Washington officials through the St. Louis conspirators, who were in league with several prominent Internal Revenue officials at the Capital. It is asserted that by this and similar testimony the payment of various sums of money for "greasing" purposes can be traced to the unfaithful servants in the City of Magnificent Distances. The amount stated is over one hundred and ninety thousand dollars. The Milwaukee Grand Jury is now paying its attentions to matters of an exactly similar nature.

The defense in the Babcock case is so active as to reach as far as Chicago in the course of preparing for this issue. Mr. Hoeffer, law partner of Hon. Emory A. Storrs, is busily engaged in collecting the testimony of Chicago witnesses prior to placing them on the stand in St. Louis. The number of witnesses from Chicago will be quite large, including Hon. J. R. Jones, Collector of Customs, and Benjamin H. Campbell, United States Marshal. It is rumored that some very important information has been obtained from Chicago witnesses, and it is understood that the defense has secured several prominent citizens, who will be willing to swear that several of the witnesses before the Grand Jury that indicted Babcock admitted to them that they stretched matters considerably in giving their testimony, as the prosecution assured them that their sentences would be light in proportion to the strength of their testimony. It is further stated that these gentlemen are prepared to state on oath that the same parties also admitted that in many instances the line of their testimony against Gen. Babcock was worked out for them by the attorneys for prosecution, who were determined to have him indicted. It is further understood that evidence can be adduced showing, or having a tendency to show, that the witnesses on whose testimony the indictment against Babcock was found gave their evidence for no other reason than to purchase immunity from imprisonment. If they had adhered to the truth the Government would have come into possession of no testimony different from what it had. They do not mean to state that the attorneys for the Government advised or asked for this wholesale perjury, but that it was purely voluntary, and part of the agreement entered into by the witnesses among themselves.

THE NEW-ORLEANS RING.

SUPPOSED WARNINGS SENT TO PARTIES IN MOBILE.

NEW-ORLEANS, Feb. 6.—It is reported on the best authority that certain parties here, mixed up in crooked whisky transactions, have dispatched an agent to Mobile, for the purpose, it is surmised, either of destroying certain records deposited there, or of advising dealers who may have had business with the parties here, of the best tactics to be pursued in the event of investigation there. The United States District Attorney has taken steps to guard against such contingency by telegraphing officials there to keep strict surveillance over the movements of the rectifiers and liquor dealers of that city.

THE COAL MINES.

THE FIVE WEEKS' SUSPENSION TO BEGIN TO-DAY.

SCRANTON, Feb. 6.—To-morrow morning the five weeks' suspension of labor at the mines, ordered by the combined companies at their recent meeting in New-York, takes effect throughout the anthracite coal fields of Pennsylvania, throwing 60,000 men and boys out of employment. The outlook is not regarded very seriously in this region, as the short season of rest is expected to be followed by one of unusual activity. It is expected the suspension will have the effect of clearing the overcrowded coal-yards at tide-water and making room for a good Spring trade. There is a large number of the poor class who will certainly be pinched by the five weeks of enforced idleness upon which they enter to-morrow, but no serious consequences are apprehended.

THE ADVISORY COUNCIL.

BOSTON, Feb. 6.—Bethany Church, at Montpelier, Vt., unanimously declines the invitation to send delegates to the Advisory Council of Plymouth Church.

The First Pariah Congregational Church of Dover, N. H., and Elliot Congregational Church of Lawrence, Mass., have voted to send delegates to the Plymouth Church Advisory Council.

WORCESTER, Feb. 6.—The First and Salem Street Churches in this city have voted to accept the invitation to participate in the Plymouth Church Council.

BANGOR, Feb. 6.—The Central Congregational Church will send delegates to the Plymouth Church Advisory Council.

A VICTIM OF "BLACK FRIDAY."

CHICAGO, Feb. 6.—The body of William F. Ward was discovered this afternoon in a closet of a vacant house on the corner of Washington and Union streets, in this city. The body was already partially decomposed, and was entirely nude, but without marks of violence. His clothes lay on the floor beside him. Mr. Ward was formerly a well-known operator in Wall street, New-York, but in the panic of "Black Friday" lost his entire fortune, which is supposed to have been over one million dollars. Since that time he has been living in penury and distress in this city. It is believed he committed suicide.

FOUR PERSONS BURNED TO DEATH.

LA SALLE, Ill., Feb. 6.—News has been received that the dwelling of George Heindle, near Hollowayville, in Bureau County, this State, was burned on Friday night, and Mr. Heindle, his wife, and two children perished in the flames. A daughter, nineteen years old, narrowly escaped by jumping from a second story window.

FRAUDULENT TRANSACTIONS.

LEBANON, N. H., Feb. 6.—Horace Hatch, who was arrested yesterday, it is alleged, borrowed for a few days some bonds of W. C. Bulkley, and used them to raise money for the Sturtevant Manufacturing Company; further, that the owner of the bonds has been unable to get them back, and that Hatch had also indorsed heavily for the Sturtevant Manufacturing Company. It has now transpired that Hatch's property was all transferred three years ago to avoid the payment of the notes, while he has been receiving a percentage for the use of his name. C. S. Sturtevant, President, and W. S. Moses, Treasurer of the company, are, it is said, also to be arrested.

LATEST NEWS BY CABLE.

THE TURKISH PROVINCES.

REPLY OF THE PORTE TO THE FOREIGN POWERS—THE LEADING REFORMS SUGGESTED TO BE PUT IN OPERATION.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 6.—The Porte today dispatched to its Ambassadors at the courts of the six guaranteeing powers a reply to Count Andrassy's note. The reply announces that in consequence of negotiations with the Ambassadors of the three Northern Powers, the Porte has resolved to apply in the insurgent districts five leading points of Andrassy's scheme, namely, the establishment of religious liberty, the modification of the system of collecting tithes, the granting of facilities to agriculturalists, the application of a portion of the revenues of the insurgent provinces to local improvements, and the appointment of a mixed commission of Mussulmans and Christians to watch the execution of these reforms.

WARLIKE PREPARATIONS IN ROUMANIA.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—A special dispatch from Vienna to the *Standard* says the news of warlike preparations in Roumania excites uneasiness. It is said Prince Charles wishes to renounce allegiance to Turkey. The Roumanian Army has 140 pieces of artillery and 100,000 Chassepot rifles coming from Prussia.

The *Tagespresses* reports that Roumania has complained to the European powers that the Turkish Compat Widdin is a permanent menace, compelling her to maintain large forces in order to preserve her dignity and independence.

The journals of Pesth complain that Russia is fomenting insurrection in Bulgaria, and assert that a Russian officer on furlough commands one of the rebel bands in Bosnia.

AUSTRIA.

INDICATIONS OF AN EARLY CHANGE OF MINISTRY—AN ULTRAMONTANE CABINET TO BE FORMED.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* says, according to apparently correct intelligence from Prague, the Vienna Cabinet is on the point of resigning, and a Ministry under the Presidency of Count Taaffe, an Ultramontane, and at present Governor of the Tyrol, will take its place. It will be remembered when a change was first rumored some months ago the semi-official journal, the *Provinzial Correspondenz*, apprehended as a consequence a serious estrangement between Germany and Austria. As Count Andrassy remains in office the worst part of these apprehensions is happily unfulfilled. Yet, as the policy of the Austrian Conservatives and Ultramontanes toward Germany and Turkey is very different from that of the outgoing Administration, a new and disturbing element is suddenly added to the political situation.

SPAIN.

THE ALFONSIST CAMPAIGN IN THE NORTH—DENIAL OF A POLITICAL RUMOR.

MADRID, Feb. 6.—An official dispatch, dated Durango, Feb. 5, reports that Gen. Quesada has occupied that city, meeting with no resistance. Gen. Loma has arrived at Guernica. The Carlists have retreated toward Azpeitia and Azcoitia. Gen. Martinez Campos is fortifying his positions at Daucharinea, where he has seized a Carlist cartridge manufactory. Rumors which have prevailed of a *convenio* between Carlos and Alfonso are entirely unfounded.

GREAT BRITAIN.

THE NAVAL FORCE IN CHINESE WATERS TO BE STRENGTHENED—THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

LONDON, Feb. 6.—The London *Observer* says it has reason to believe, in view of the unsettled state of political affairs, the British Government intends to strengthen its naval forces in the Chinese waters.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—The *Observer* states that the British frigates Narcissus, Immortalite, Newcastle, and Topaze will sail from Bombay in a few days for Hong Kong.

The *Standard* to-day says it is definitely announced that the Duke of Edinburgh is to take command of the iron-clad Sultan, now at Devonport, and proceed on a special cruise when she is refitted.

The Princess of Wales arrived at Dover today from Denmark via Calais.

FRANCE.

THE FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS FOR DEPUTIES.

PARIS, Feb. 6.—Louis Blanc has announced his intention of being a candidate in the elections for the Chamber of Deputies in the Fifth and Thirteenth Arrondissements of Paris.

Victor Hugo has declined an invitation from the Irreconcilable Radicals to be a candidate in the Ninth Arrondissement against ex-President Thiers.

GERMANY.

CARDINAL LEDOCHOWSKI'S WHEREABOUTS.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—The *Standard's* Vienna dispatch states that Cardinal Ledochowski will remain some time at his brother's castle in Moravia. The Polish members of the Austrian Reichsrath will send a delegation to visit the Cardinal.

EGYPT.

THE PROPOSED SALE OF RAILWAYS TO AN ENGLISH COMPANY.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—A telegram to the *Standard* from Rome says there is reason to believe that the terms of the treaty for the sale of the Egyptian railways to an English company have been settled, and it is said the contract will be signed next week.

BELGIUM.

THE SEARCH FOR THE LIVING AND DEAD IN THE EXPLODED MINE.

ST. ETIENNE, Feb. 6.—So far seventy corpses have been recovered from the Jabin colliery. The earth is constantly falling in, and the search for the living and dead proceeds slowly under circumstances of great danger.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—A dispatch from St. Etienne to the *Daily Telegraph* reports that 200 miners were killed by the explosion in the Jabin colliery.

PARAGUAY.

FOREIGN AUTHORITY APPROACHING AN END—THE TERRITORIAL DISPUTE.

BUENOS AYRES, Feb. 2, via LONDON, Feb. 7—The Argentine and Brazilian Delegates will cease to hold authority over Paraguay in five months. The dispute in regard to territory between Paraguay and the Argentine States has been submitted to President Grant for arbitration.

THE FRENCH ELECTIONS.

COMPLEXION OF THE SENATE.

HOW THE DEPUTIES ARE CHOSEN—EXTENT OF THE REPUBLICAN VICTORIES—POSSIBLE TACTICS OF THE LEFT—AN ADDRESS OF VICTOR HUGO—THE CHEVALIER WEISS.

From Our Own Correspondent.

PARIS, Friday, Jan. 21, 1876.

We have not yet received any reliable report respecting the character of the Senatorial electors chosen on Sunday last, but I have just made a long and careful study of the isolated reports that have been given us, and have been able to form an approximate idea of what the Senate is to be. Let me premise my brief study by saying, what every student of French politics already knows, that the Senators are not elected by universal suffrage, like the Assembly, but by a restricted and special electoral corps. This is composed, 1. Of the Deputies of the departments; 2. Of the members of the Councils General; 3. Of the members of the Councils of the Arrondissements; 4. Of the delegates chosen by the Communes, one delegate for each municipal council, whatever its size or importance. These delegates were elected on Sunday last. The Senatorial electoral corps is thus complete, and is composed of 43,562 electors, comprising those of Algeria, Corsica, and the Colonies; and it is this special corps which is to elect on Sunday after next, the 30th of January, the remaining 225 members of the new Senate. They assemble in the chief town of each department, and the election will be held under the supervison of the Prefect.

I need scarcely remark, perhaps, that this mode of election shows many inequalities, and that the delegates are not chosen proportionally to the number of inhabitants in the communes. The Commune of Paris, with its half a million of voters, has no more influence than the Commune of Fouilly-les-Oies with its fourscore. It follows that the larger electoral colleges are not chosen by such departments as the Seine, the Rhône, and Bouches-du-Rhône, which have in them such populous cities as Paris, Lyons, and Marseilles, but by the departments which are greatly inferior in the matter of population, but which have a larger number of communes. Thus, the Department of the Pas-de-Calais (Calais and Boulogne) has 1,018 electors; the Somme, (Amiens and Abbeville,) 936; Seine-Inférieure, (Rouen,) 879, and Calvados 855—while the more populous Department of the Bouches-du-Rhône (Marseilles) has only 174; the Alpes-Maritimes and the Var, 208; Vaucluse, 213, and the Haut-Rhin, constituted since the cession of Alsace by the City of Belfort and its environs, has only 112 electors. The contrast is best shown by comparing the Pas-de-Calais with the Seine; while Paris and its environs elect but 221 delegates, Calais, Boulogne, and the surrounding villages and hamlets have 1,018. This system was devised mainly for the purpose of neutralising the radical influence and tendencies of the great cities, and it appears to have succeeded better that was at first supposed, for of the thousand electors of Boulogne and Calais over six hundred are declared Bonapartists.

All these communal delegates have to assemble on Sunday, the 30th of January, to meet the other electors, and to choose the members of the Senate. As the voyage to the chief town might prove onerous to some, mileage is allowed them, but a very modest estimate has been made. Each delegate will receive fifty cents for every five miles traveled, or, to be accurate, for every myriamètre, or 10,000 yards, all fractions above one-half to be counted as a whole myriamètre. This entails upon the Treasury an expense of 850,000 francs. No mileage is allowed for only two miles. The above sum is the official estimate, but I do not think it will be required, for a large majority of the delegates would hardly think of entering a claim upon the Treasury for a sum so insignificant, and the demand has to be made in writing and handed to the presiding officer of the Assembly before its sitting is over.

As I remarked above, we have not yet received any official report concerning the character of these communal delegates, but on studying out the lists I find that the Republicans are less successful than I had at first supposed. It appears that Conservative opinions prevail in over sixty of the eighty-seven departments, and the two parties are pretty nearly equal in at least ten more, leaving not more than fifteen departments in which the Republicans have triumphed. This statement will be deceptive unless I explain that the seventy departments in which Conservative opinions have prevailed may not elect Conservative Senators, for where the electors are composed of a little more than one-third Republicans and two-thirds Conservatives, divided up into three factions, the Republican candidates would be tolerably sure of election. Hence the fact of our finding seventy departments that are Conservative does not indicate with certainty that all will elect Conservative candidates. In trying to make an estimate of the relative strength of the parties a number of details have to be taken into account that would seem unimportant to the foreign reader. As this letter will reach you about the time that you receive the results by telegraph, all prediction is risky in the extreme, but I am inclined to give the Bonapartists about 140

organcies may be imagined at first, they will be explanatory of some points that might otherwise have appeared obscure.

In connection with these elections I have to speak of Victor Hugo again, the "Grand Elector" having issued another address, which appears this morning. It is headed, "The Delegate of Paris to the Delegates of the 36,000 Communes of France." The manifesto begins, "Electors of the Communes of France, this is what Paris expects of you!" He goes on to say, "She has suffered very much, the noble city, but nevertheless she has accomplished her duty." Then follows a long rigmarole about the *malheurs* of France, commencing with the 2d of December, 1851, the period of the *coup d'état*, "which crime, become a vice, has passed into the blood of peoples." After near twenty years of degradation and corruption, the enemy came to the gates of Paris, "expecting to find a Sodom. He found a Sparta. What Sparta! A Sparta of 2,000,000 men; a prodigy; what history had never before seen; Babylon, with the heroism of Saragossa!" Paris nobly submitted to vandal brutalities, and on the day when her feeble military chiefs capitulated, any other city in the world would have cried with joy; Paris cried with pain. From this point I must translate:

"How was that city recompensed! By every outrage. Not a single martyrdom was spared the sublime city. Who says martyrdom says torture plus insult. Thenceforth she alone had a right to the Arc de Triomphe. It was by the Arc de Triomphe that France, represented by her Assembly, should have entered into Paris with uncovered head. France should have honored herself in honoring Paris. The contrary was done. I do not judge—I relate. The future will pronounce its verdict. Whatever it may be—I do not insist upon this point—Paris was treated with contempt. Paris, sad to say, has enemies elsewhere than abroad. They have overwhelmed with calumnies this incomparable city, which stood boldly up against disaster, which arrested and disconcerted Germany, and which, aided by the powerful and intrepid assistance of the Government of Tours, would, if the resistance had continued a month longer, have turned the invasion into a rout. To this Paris, which merits all veneration, every affront has been given. The prodigality of insult heaped upon her was measured by the quantity of respect that was due. But what does all that matter? In taking from her head her diadem of the capital of France, her enemies have laid bare the brain of the capital of the world. The grand forehead of Paris is entirely visible now, and all the more resplendent because without a crown. Henceforth peoples will unanimously recognise Paris as the capital of the human race. Electors of the communes, to-day a grand hour strikes; the people have the floor; and after so many combats, so many sufferings, so much injustice, so many tortures, the heroic city, at this moment still condemned to ostracism, comes to you. What does she ask at you? Nothing for herself—all for the *Patrie*."

I must pause here to make one remark for the purpose of calling particular attention to the programme of Victor Hugo. After reading it who can draw any practical conclusions from it? To me it seems like the ravings of Anacharsis Cloots, who called himself the "Attorney General of the human race."

"Paris demands of you," continues Victor Hugo, "to put one side the question of the future. She asks you to found political truth, to found social truth, to found the democracy, to found France. She asks you to bring out by this solemn vote the satisfaction of interests and of consciences, the indestructible Republic, honored and delivered labor, diminished taxes as a whole and proportioned in detail, social revenue disengaged from parasitism, complete universal suffrage, a rectified system of penality, instruction for all, right for everybody. Electors of the communes, Paris, the supreme communa, asks you, your vote being a decree, to decree by the significance of your choice the end of abuse by the advent of truth, the ebb of monarchy by the federation of peoples, the end of foreign war by arbitration, the end of civil war by amnesty, the end of misery by the end of ignorance. Paris asks of you the healing of wounds. At this hour, when so many hostile forces are yet standing, she asks you to give confidence to progress; she asks you to assert the right in presence of force, to assert France in the presence of Germanism, to assert Paris in the presence of Rome, to assert light in the presence of night. You will do it!"

This wondrous document closes as follows:

"The will of France is yours, electors of the communes. Achieve the foundation of the Republic. Make for the Senate of France such choices that the peace of the world will result. To conquer is something; to pacify is everything. Make, in the presence of civilization which is watching you, a desirable Republic—a Republic without a state of siege, without gags, without exiles, without political hulks, without military yokes, without clerical yokes—a Republic of truth and of liberty. Turn toward enlightened men. Send them to the Senate; they know what France needs. It is of light [*lumière*, or intelligence probably] that order is made. Peace is a light, [*klarté.*] The hour of violence has passed. Thinkers are more useful than soldiers; by the sword we discipline, but by ideas we civilize. Some one is greater than Themistocles—it is Socrates; some one is greater then Cæsar—it is Virgil; some one is greater than Napoleon—it is Voltaire."

Doubtless there are some good ideas here, but what is the use of expressing sensible things in this highfalutin way? It is all very well for men of this stamp to vent their fine theories and to soar into the clouds, but when we come down to necessary details I imagine they will turn out like Wendell Phillips, who has, I see, come out as an *authoritaire*, and wants to see the police force of our General Government brought to bear upon the Governments of our great cities. That is just what I have been demanding all the time that Mr. Phillips has been talking of the "rights of man," and the curious part of it is that I have always drawn my conclusions from his premises, and he now takes my premises for the purpose of drawing his present excellent conclusions.

The half-crazy tone of Victor Hugo's address reminds me of another person that we have here in Paris who has a pretty fair opinion of himself. Let me say that I have received several communications from him for publication, in which he treats Bismarck as an equal—which I presume should be considered a great compliment—and criticises minor points in twenty or thirty pages of manuscript. At my first and only interview with him he was so loud and violent in his speech that I took him for a cracked man or a vulgarian. This is the Chevalier Siegfried Weiss, who has lately brought an action against the City of Geneva, claiming 108,000 francs for services rendered to Charles, the late Duke of Brunswick. He claims to have gone to Berlin for the Duke in 1868 to negotiate with the King of Prussia the cession of the Duke's rights to the independent sovereignty of Brunswick. He was to have his traveling expenses and 600 francs per month. In addition he was empowered to pursue at law the curator of the Duke's estate to obtain a restitution of certain properties, for which he (Weiss) was to receive one per cent. The sum here claimed was 25,000 francs. The City of Geneva, as heir to the Duke's property, was held liable for his just debts, and was cited to appear before the French tribunal. Weiss is a Prussian by birth, but has become a naturalized Frenchman, and is entitled to enjoy all the rights and privileges belonging to a French citizen. The City of Geneva did not put in an appearance. Weiss pleaded that under specified conditions, which were fully met in his case, a foreigner could be thus cited before the French tribunals, and that the international treaty of 1869 cannot be pleaded as a bar to the action, seeing that the Duke of Brunswick did not belong to the Swiss nation; that according to a notarial act executed in Paris on the 9th of April, 1868, by the Duke, he was empowered, as above stated, to pursue the curator for his own claims, and was to have one per cent. of all other moneys obtained. The French tribunal allowed the claim, and condemned the City of Geneva, by default, to pay the sum demanded by Weiss. Here is a decision which might involve some consequences, for it is not easy to see how the judgment is to be executed. According to the French law, however, the Mayor of Geneva may be seized for the claim, if caught anywhere on French soil.

BASE-BALL.

A MEETING OF THE MANAGERS OF THE PROFESSIONAL NINES—THE PHILADELPHIA CLUB EXCLUDED FROM THE CHAMPIONSHIP CONTESTS—NEW RULES.

A meeting of the managers of all the professional base-ball organizations in the country, excepting the Philadelphia Club, was held at the Grand Central Hotel on Wednesday, Feb. 2, at 2 o'clock. The first action was the passage of a resolution preventing two clubs from any one city entering for the championship. As the Athletics were represented at the meeting, and took part in its action, the Philadelphias were, as a consequence, shut out from entering their nine for the whip pennant. The next action was the passage of a resolution preventing any two clubs from playing in a city in which neither of them belonga. This was done for the purpose of "heading off" two or three clubs and preventing their going to Philadelphia during the Exhibition and playing a series of games. This will be a sore disappointment to these clubs, and will doubtless result in the disbanding of more than one of them before the season is half over. The amending of the rules was taken up, and several important changes were made. Among others, a rule allowing the base-runner to run on a foul fly catch, after he has touched his base, the same as on a fair fly-catch, was adopted. Another of the new rules allows a base-runner to return to his base after a foul ball has been hit, without running the risk of being put out, and still another virtually allows the batsman to have four strikes instead of three. After two balls have been called the umpire shall, when the next fair ball has been pitched and the batsman refuses to strike at it, warn the striker, but shall not be allowed to call a strike until still another fair ball has been pitched.

The following clubs entered for the championship: Athletic, Mutual, New-Haven, Hartford, Boston, Chicago, St. Louis, Louisville, and Cincinnati. The association will be known as the National League of Professional Base-ball Clubs, and has nothing whatever to do with the old National Association. The officers are M. G. Buckley, of the Hartford Club, President, and N. E. Young, of Washington, Secretary. The League will be governed by a board of five Directors. Those chosen for the current year are from the Hartford, Louisville, Boston, Mutual, and St. Louis Clubs. This board will sit annually as a Board of Appeals to decide all disputed points, and their decisions will be final. A most wholesome regulation of this League is one to the effect that when a player has been suspended he must wait until the end of the season, or until December, when the Directors meet, before his appeal can be heard. Thus, if a player is expelled from a club, he cannot join another nine and continue in the field, as under the old system. The League will hold its next meeting in March of next year.

THE CONFEDERATE RECORDS.

REPLY OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SOUTHERN HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO GEN. BELKNAP.

Rev. J. William Jones, D. D., Secretary of the Southern Historical Society, has made the following reply to Secretary Belknap's letter, informing him that the War Department is anxious to secure every official report, letter, telegram, or order emanating from either side during the late war, and has no thought whatever of discriminating in favor of one section as against another in their publication:

OFFICE SOUTHERN HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
STATE CAPITOL, RICHMOND, Va., Feb. 2, 1876.

Gen. William W. Belknap, Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

DEAR SIR: Your favor of recent date has been duly received, and its contents fully considered. Your private secretary rightly informed you that the Southern Historical Society has accumulated a large mass of official reports and other documents bearing on the late war; that we are diligently adding to our store, and that as our object in making the collection is to place our Confederate people right upon the record, we are ready to co-operate most heartily in any effort which shall tend to secure that result. It will be a great satisfaction to our people to learn that your department contemplates a publication of the official records, both Federal and Confederate; and I am sure that there will be a general disposition to aid you in supplying the missing links. To be frank, there has been, as you intimate, a wide-spread fear at the South that few of the captured Confederate records would ever see the light, and a general feeling that their suppression, and a refusal to give access to them, would be a great wrong to the cause of justice and truth. Your assurance that nothing of the sort is contemplated, and that in the publication proposed by the department there is "no thought whatever of discriminating in favor of one section as against another," will be hailed with the liveliest satisfaction. The people of the South are not only willing, but anxious, that the whole of their official records should be given to the world, and that the future historian should have the opportunity of judging them in the light of those records. Be assured, then, of our hearty co-operation in supplying your department with missing Confederate documents. We will have furnished you properly-authenticated copies of such as are in our possession, and will assist you in procuring others—it being understood, of course, that your department will afford us similar facilities in the prosecution of our work.

Thanking you for your courteous letter, I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. WILLIAM JONES,
Secretary Southern Historical Society.

GOOD-WILL TO SOUTHERNERS.

The Charleston (S. C.) *News* makes mention of the recent partial destruction of Hollis Hall, Harvard College, by fire, and in that connection says: "Among the occupants was one from South Carolina, who received from a gentlemen connected with Harvard, bearing one of the most distinguished names in America, the following considerate note, which will be read with interest, and appreciated everywhere in the Palmetto State, as an evidence of that kindly sentiment which now marks the utterances of the people of the old Bay State:"

CAMBRIDGE, Jan. 27, 1876.

MY DEAR ——: The President informs me that he considers it would be in every way unsafe to attempt to inhabit "Hollis" again this year, *i. e.*, before vacation. That being the case he advises for your own comfort—and so with all in your situation—that you endeavor to engage a furnished room. My suggestion would rather be an unfurnished one, but you know best what you have need. I should therefore propose that you look about a couple of such a room as you fancy, and such furniture as you require, and use my name as a reference in any purchases you have to make. I enclose what may make the immediate crisis less awkward, and trust you will come for more when you need it. It is a very imperfect way of expressing my most earnest hope for the uprising of the South, and my wish to help any Southern man who is here, and pray whatever happens do not treat me as a stranger, if you need me for anything, or if you don't. If your present quarters are in any way untenable you are as welcome as the sun to come and stay with me till you get permanent quarters, for which end, as I say, I hope you will let me help. Ever affectionately,

THE INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION COMPANY.

E. B. Pond, Secretary of the Industrial Exhibition Company, the temporary office of which is at No. 12 East Seventeenth street, states in regard to the alleged financial embarrassment of that company, that whatever embarrassment the company labors under for the moment, arises entirely from its connection with Morgenthau, Bruno & Co., who have acted as its financial agents, and against whom the company have brought two suits, one to recover $142,000 and the other $16,000, the alleged proceeds of sales of bonds, now in their hands, and claimed by the company. In this connection an injunction has been granted against the firm restraining them from acting as agents and from disposing of any property. Mr. Pond further states that the company's indebtedness is small, and that it has within the last eight months canceled $770,000 of its bonded debt, less the amount of bonds in the hands of the public, due and becoming due, which amount to less than six thousand dollars. The company has been reorganising, and in a short time will present a statement of its exact condition, and convincing proof of a disposition and ability to meet all obligations as fast as they fall due.

THE POPE'S HEALTH.

Speaking of the Pope's health the London *Lancet* says that on Friday evening, Jan. 14, after the fatigning receptions and discourses of many days preceding, he complained of an indefinable *malaise*, which was shortly followed by an epileptoid seizure of forty minutes' duration. Dr. Ceccarelli was immediately called in, saw it to be a return of the same attack which had prostrated the Pope on the evening of the 6th of November last, and remained all night by the side of his august patient. His Holiness slept tranquilly for nearly four hours, and found himself much better in the morning. By Dr. Ceccarelli's orders he has been strictly confined to bed, and while his increasing tendency to congestion of the nervous centres imposes the utmost vigilance on his medical attendants, there is not any ground for the grave reports which have been circulated through the foreign journals and exchanges

ENGLISH TOPICS.

THE MINISTRY AND THE LIBERALS.

THE TROUBLE WITH TURKEY—THE SUEZ SHARES—THE COMING PARLIAMENTARY SESSION—RURAL ELECTIONS—ECCLESIASTICAL TRIALS—THE QUEEN IN PUBLIC LIFE.

From Our Own Correspondent.

LONDON, Saturday, Jan. 22, 1876.

The Ministers began their sittings in Council after the Christmas recess on Tuesday, and have had two other meetings this week. The first business before them was Count Andrassy's note with regard to intervention in Turkey; and on this question the Cabinet seems to have had no difficulty in at once coming to a decision, for the same afternoon an official intimation was sent to the newspapers—with the exception of the Conservative *Standard*, against which Mr. Disraeli has some ill-will—that the invitation had been accepted, under certain reserves. There was very little room indeed for doubt as to the answer which should be returned, since a refusal would have been interpreted by the three powers as implying either that England washed her hands of the whole affair, or that she was disposed to deal with it in an independent manner. The adhesion to the Austrian note, however, is little more than a form of courtesy, and like saying: "Well, we have no objection to talk the subject over and see what can be done." But when the talk begins and practical action is proposed the gravity of the situation will be fully appreciated. None of the real difficulties of the case are disposed of by the step just taken, and it may be expected that the future deliberations of the Cabinet will scarcely be so prompt and harmonious as on this occasion. In one respect, however, the Ministers may be at ease, for they know that there is no reason to fear an immediate attack from the Opposition on this question, seeing that the Government alone possesses accurate information as to what is going on, and that the Opposition must wait until the diplomatic correspondence is presented to Parliament before attempting anything serious in the way of criticism. It is probable that for similar reasons the Opposition will also be disarmed for a time on the question of the Suez Canal. The popular enthusiasm with which the purchase of shares was at first received has quickly subsided, but there are no signs of discontent. It seems to be generally thought that the Ministers, having to come to a sudden decision, did the best they could, and that even though the investment should prove financially not a very brilliant one, this is a small matter if the policy adopted really gives England a better hold on Egypt and the route to India. For the present, Mr. Cave seems to have got into comparatively smooth water in his mission to overhaul the Khédive's accounts, but it is hard to say how long this will last. Even if the examination of the accounts is satisfactorily carried out, it does not follow that the Khédive will be prepared quietly to adopt whatever measures Mr. Cave may suggest for putting things straight; and there can be no doubt that he will be worked upon by all sorts of people to throw over the English. Indeed, there has already been a rush of French and German financiers to offer him advances on liberal terms, and a new outbreak of borrowing is quite on the cards. All this, however, is a question of the future, and the Opposition has, as yet, no materials for criticism.

THE NEXT SESSION.

The common expectation seems to be that the ensuing session will be a very brisk and exciting one, but I think this is doubtful. It is true that the Liberals are plucking up their spirits, and beginning to show fight, but they are still much divided, and there is a great risk of the eagerness of some sections of the party to make an aggressive movement precipitating them into a false position. For example, an effort is now being made to get up an agitation against the Government on account of the Slave-trade Circular. This document in its revised form simply repeats the instructions to naval officers which have been in force for years past under successive Governments, and as to which no complaint had previously been made. Whether or not it is a moral duty on the part of England to place her ships at the disposal of all slaves in foreign parts who would like to leave their masters, it is at least quite certain that this country has never yet recognized or made arrangements for carrying out this principle; and the present Ministry are really following in the steps of their predecessors. Nothing can be more unjust, therefore, than to condemn them for surrendering cherished principles and trampling under foot the traditions of English philanthropy—as is done in the excited language of indignation meetings, of which two or three are being held every week in different parts of the country. There is, no doubt, a very strong feeling about slavery in England, but when the practical consequences of undertaking a crusade against it all over the world are clearly looked at, prudence will perhaps suggest that the matter had better be let alone for the present.

RURAL ELECTIONS

There are some minor electoral contests going on just now in the rural districts of England which are remarkable chiefly for the frankness with which the great land-owners assert their right to send their own men to Parliament. In Dorsetshire, where a couple of Conservatives came forward against each other, it has just been decided that the chief landlord of the district holds the nomination, and the other candidate has, therefore, been withdrawn. Now the tenant-farmers have started a candidate of their own, and the landlords are calling on their tenants to sign a circular stating how they mean to vote—an obvious defiance of the principle of the ballot. In another case a quiet country seat was looked out for the new Attorney General, Mr. Gifford. The sitting member agreed to resign in his favor, but somehow the local nobleman had not been consulted, so he quashed the arrangement and put in a relative of his own, though he is himself a Conservative and had no objection to Mr. Gifford personally. This aspect of territorial rights is also amusingly illustrated in a correspondence which has just got into the papers. Lord Forester (Conservative) made a speech in which he said that Lord Wenlock (Liberal) had proposed to him to divide the representation of the borough of Wenlock, and "turn out that Radical Brown," one of the sitting members. Afterward, however, Lord Wenlock found it convenient to support Mr. Brown, when trying to get the other seat for his son against Lord Forester's nephew. Upon this story coming to Lord Wenlock's ears, he wrote to say that he had never made a proposal to divide the constituency, but that it was Lord Forester himself who had done so at a dinner party, and that he (Lord Wenlock) replied, "I'll see you —— first!" The correspondence closes with Lord Forester retorting that he never said anything of the sort, and that if Lord Wenlock had given him the answer alleged he could not possibly have forgotten such language, as it was not that used in the society which he was in the habit of frequenting. This controversy between two worthy members of the peerage has naturally caused great amusement to the profane world, especially as the revelation as to the language of high society has appeared simultaneously with a movement on the part of the City of London authorities to put down bad language at Billingsgate by means of criminal prosecutions. It would appear that at both ends of society there is scope for this kind of reformatory effort.

ECCLESIASTICAL TRIALS.

Ecclesiastical trials are creating a good deal of interest here just now. The Judge of the new Court of Church Discipline has not yet made up his mind as to what decision he will give on the Folkestone case—the first brought before him—but the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council yesterday reversed a decision of the court below, declaring that the title of "reverend" was the special property of clergymen of the Church of England. A Wealeyan minister had called himself reverend while mentioning his denomination on the tombstone of his child erected in the parish churchyard, and the incumbent objecting, was supported by the Bishop and the Court of Arches. But the Lord Chancellor (Cairns) put the matter on a rational footing. He said it was clear that "reverend" was not a title of honor or courtesy, but a mere laudatory epithet, used as a mark of respect and reverence and nothing more. It had been used for a considerable time, not by any means for a length of time, by the clergy of the English Church, but in ancient times it had been applied to persons who were not clergymen at all, and was also used in common parlance at the present day by all classes of dissenting ministers. Under these circumstances it was impossible to treat the word "reverend" as a title of honor exclusively possessed by the clergy of the Church of England. It would appear from this decision that anybody who chooses can call himself "reverend" just as any one may call himself "professor," and may take his chance of getting other people to recognize the title, only other people can also do as they like about it. It shows the strange state of mind of some of the English clergy that such a question should ever have been raised for trial.

"THE PERSONALITY OF THE DEVIL."

Another ecclesiastical case of much interest and importance relates to the personality of the devil. The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, consisting on this occasion of the two Archbishops and several law Lords and Judges, has been hearing, during the week, an appeal from the judgment of the Arches Court in Jenkins against Cook. Mr. Jenkins is a respectable solicitor at Clifton (Bristol,) who does not think that all parts of the bible are fit for family reading, and who has compiled an edition in which a good deal is omitted, including every passage referring to hell and the devil. Mr. Jenkins sits under Rev. Mr. Cook and did not at all like a sermon which Mr. Cook preached making a great deal of the devil and insisting on his personality. Mr. Jenkins criticised this sermon in a letter to Mr. Cook and a controversy ensued, in which Mr. Cook refused to admit Jenkins to the communion table as being "an evil liver" and "defamer of the book of Common Prayer." It was contended on the part of Mr. Jenkins that a clergyman had no right to set himself up as a judge of heresy, and that Mr. Jenkins had a perfect right to hold his opinion upon the devil and hell. The court has not yet given its decision, but the language of the Lord Chancellor and some of the other lay members was very significant. The Lord Chancellor asked the counsel for Mr. Cook whether a member of the Church of England could be repelled from the Lord's Supper because he did not believe in transubstantiation, and the counsel replied that he would rather not answer the question. He also said: "There are men who hold good opinions and live evil lives; and there are also men, I suppose, who hold wrong opinions and lead good lives." When Dr. Stephens quoted the act of Uniformity, which speaks of people "following their own sensuality" and abstaining from going to church, Lord Penzance asked whether it was considered an act of sensuality not to go to church, evidently with a sense of personal interest in the question. Even the Archbishop of Canterbury suggested, with apparent approval, that the counsél for Mr. Jenkins should use the words of the pleadings and call upon the court not to condemn as penal "the expression of a hope that even the ultimate pardon of the wicked who are condemned in the day of judgment will be consistent with the will of Almighty God." In a former case, which was tried some years ago, and in which the question of the devil turned up, Lord Westbury threw all his weight into the scales against the Satanic personality, and in a proposed epitaph it was described of him that he had "dismissed Hell with costs, and taken away from pious members of the Church of England their last hope of everlasting damnation."

THE QUEEN.

The intention of the Queen to open Parliament in person has been supposed to be connected with a probable request for an increased grant for the Prince of Wales' expenses in India, which have largely exceeded the original estimate, and possibly with a settlement for the Princess Beatrice. However that may be, I believe the reason of the Queen's emergence from her usual seclusion is a real or supposed rule of etiquette that the sovereign should personally confront a Parliament at least once in its lifetime. The last time when the Queen opened the session was in 1871, when the Parliament was in its third year, and this is the third year of the present Parliament. It was announced that the Queen on this occasion would be accompanied by the Princess of Wales, but the Princess, who perhaps was not consulted, is said to have discovered that she is very comfortable where she is, with her parents at Copenhagen, and that it will depend on the weather whether she can come home for the beginning of the session. An odd story comes from Balmoral. It seems that the Queen has suddenly suppressed a curling club among her servants and tenantry there, on the ground that she does not see much fun in the game, and suspects that it tends to a great consumption of whisky. This is an especially cruel blow, as on the anniversary of the Prince Consort's death all the household and gillies are assembled round his cairn at Balmoral to drink his health in the national drink, but then, no doubt, the occasion sanctifies the liquor. Nothing in the world, I fancy, would shake the loyalty of the Balmoral population, but this double slight to curling and whisky has wounded them deeply; and I should not wonder if they took to trousers, or did something equally desperate.

SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS.

It is not perhaps without significance that Lord Napier of Magdala, Commander in Chief in India, is transferred to the command at Gibraltar, a good point of observation in the event of Eastern difficulties.

Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Bouverie, and Mr. Goschen have removed their names from the list of the Reform Club, it is said, in concert; and of course there is much bewilderment in that part of Pall Mall. J. H. F.

A FRENCH DIVORCE SUIT.

A curious separation case has just been brought before the Parisian courts. Gen. Douay, who commands an army corps, has accused his wife of desertion, and of having rendered life in common quite impossible. Mme. Douay affirms that the General squandered her fortune, beat her, and took away her child. Instead of dragging the whole matter before the court, counsel on each side adopted the novel expedient of handing in their cases to the court, which received two large packets—the one from Maitre Nicholet, the other from Maitre Lacaud—promised to examine them and said judgment should be delivered in a week.

PULPIT UTTERANCES.

THE DOCTRINE OF MATERIALISM.

SERMON BY REV. DR. MORGAN DIX AT TRINITY CHAPEL.

Rev. Dr. Morgan Dix delivered at Trinity Chapel last evening the annual sermon in behalf of the House of Mercy, an institution incorporated in 1869 for the reception and reformation of destitute and fallen women who may wish to abandon a vicious course of life. Dr. Dix took his text from the eleventh verse of the twentieth chapter of Job. "His bones are full of the sin of his youth, which shall lie down with him in the dust." Many false teachers, he said, had misled others by arguing that sin is something exterior to life, a habit which we may cast off and lay aside at any time as we do our clothes. It is not, they say, a disease; it does not penetrate the life or being of the man, but is entirely outward. This was all wrong, and quite contrary to Bible teaching. A hardened sinner on his death bed declares his repentance; all is peace within, he says; pardon is granted and he passes away calmly. No wonder that Christians and devout believers witnessing such sights and hearing from day to day of such occurrences become skeptical. Such repentances were too often in name only. The Bible contains but one instance of a death-bed repentance being received, and that was under peculiar circumstances. A long and vile life it was certain hardened the whole man, and no power could retrieve the mischief done. The wretch's bones were "full of the sin of his youth, which shall lie down with him in the dust."

Dr. Dix then proceeded to speak of the doctrine of Materialism and the immense amount of mischief it has done and is still doing. "Materialism," said the libertine, "is the belief for us. Religion is a dream of the priests, a bugbear to frighten women and children. None but the weak will believe it." According to the Materialists, man is composed of matter only, and his mind or spirit is a something produced by that matter, and not independent of it. Now there is in the Bible a certain doctrine of Materialism. It shows the end of sin, and deals with the sinner and his sin; it shows him his folly, and it shows how, in the end, he will pass away like the beasts that perish. Materialism says there is no God, no father, no heart, no mind, nor spirit above us. Everything is matter, and matter is everything. The whole world and all that it contains is composed of molecules. In place of a beneficent, guiding power, a soul and spirit, we have molecular forces. The forces account, say the Materialists, for everything. Man ascended or descended from some other form of being, and in the process of ages he became what he is to-day. So with all animal life; it all came from atoms, or molecules, through the mysterious agency of molecular forces. This philosophy, said the preacher, is as old as Christianity, as old as the Jewish faith, as old as Edom. It is a most excellent philosophy for the libertine and the licentious. It is just what they want, for it allows them every license. It was true that those of pure life had preached this philosophy of Materialism, but thousands of their followers were not men of pure morals, but far indeed from it. May God help those, said Dr. Dix, who fall in the path of such men. Better, far, they fall in the way of wild beasts, for beasts have instincts which they never violate. Beasts are not licentious. What they do is right and normal, according to their instincts. Less cruel and treacherous than the systematic libertine, youth and innocence might hope for more mercy from the beasts than from him. The thorough-paced libertine, he said, is the thorough exemplification of Materialism. He only is right if Materialism is right, for he enjoys this life in the best way he knows how and there is nothing beyond, says Materialism. The men professing and living up to these doctrines swarm around us. They lay in wait for young girls; they seduce married women from the path of duty; they bring discord into families that would otherwise have known none; they lay snares even for children. "The flesh, the flesh," they say, "let us lead the life of the flesh, for to-morrow we die, and there is no hereafter." Here, in one of our grandest streets, not long ago, a young girl, leading a life of shame, shot herself with a pistol in the presence of her lover; and was the matter covered up! Not at all. She had a splendid funeral, at which hundreds of girls, leading a life similar to hers were present, and flowers were strewn in profusion over the costly coffin. In our midst is a society, not organized one day too soon, for the suppression of vice, carried into the midst of families and schools by means of books and pictures. Could anything be imagined more horrible than this? All this might be traced to Materialism.

Dr. Dix then went on to show that death was a perfect emblem of the materialist's philosophy. Here lie, he said, the bones "full of the sin of his youth, which shall lie down with him in the dust." Here are the eyes that looked on woman only to lust after her; here are the hands that sought to draw youth and innocence away from the right path; here is the heart that beat only with vile passions, and the brain that conceived only vile thoughts. But in the grave one cannot sleep forever, and how terrible will be the awakening! Where will then be those talkers of false, those misleaders of the young and innocent? No poet with brain half addled on moral questions will be there to judge Faust, but a just and offended God. The lies and darkness of this world will all be cleared away then, and then let those who have ruined young girls, brought sorrow between husband and wife, and laid traps for the unwary, come forward and receive their reward. In conclusion, the reverend gentleman made an eloquent appeal on behalf of the House of Mercy, which has now seventy-six inmates, 161 having been received during the year. Dr. Dix urged the necessities of the institution, which is now doing an excellent work, and besought his hearers if they could not give to it now, to remember the institution hereafter.

THE BIBLE IN THE SCHOOLS.

SERMON BY REV. D. M. M'CAFFREY, AT THE CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR.

The congregation of the Protestant Episcopal Church of Our Saviour assembled in the hall at No. 595 Third avenue last evening, and listened to a sermon on the public school question, delivered by the Pastor, Rev. D. M. McCaffrey. The preacher took his text from the Gospel according to St. John, fifth chapter, thirty-ninth verse: "Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life, and they are they which testify of Me." Our blessed Saviour, said the speaker, was here addressing the Jews, who seemed wrapped up in spiritual darkness in regard to the coming of Jesus. This was where the Jews stumbled. Christ did not come as a conquerer, shedding blood like Mohammed, but he came poor and lowly, and himself laid down the principles of Christianity for us. "Search the Scriptures," said He, and see that the prophecies are all fulfilled. But the Jews had other books. They had their Talmud, full of their traditions. They ignored the scriptures, and laid it in the sacred ark of the temple. They took out the Talmud and taught the commandments of men rather than those of God. How foolish it is in this nineteenth century of civilization to have men say that we are not to read the Scriptures except by the unanimous consent of the Fathers of the Church. But these Fathers have never agreed upon any point. All the Popes and Bishops have been knocking each other's heads together. But Christ tells the Jews, "search the Scriptures." Rome says you should not. Where was the Roman Church when Christ gave the command, or when St. Paul commended Timothy for having read the Scriptures from his youth? The Pope maintains that it will stultify the children of our public schools to have the Bible read there. The reason, however, why Rome desires the expulsion of the Bible is because it exposes her system. If we reject the Bible we have no system of belief. It is our magna charta, which God Almighty through Jesus Christ has given to his children. The man who denies the truth of the Bible is denying that he has an immortal soul. Henry Ward Beecher on last Thanksgiving Day spoke in favor of throwing out the Bible from the public schools. This is a free country, said he. Yes, this is a free country, commented the speaker, for the devil to have full scope. If we draw comparisons between the children in the public schools and the children attending the Roman Catholic parochial schools it will be found that the former are much superior in attainments. So, too, with the public school teachers when compared with those of the parochial schools. The Bible is the religion of Protestants, and we will not give it up for all the priests in Rome, for the Pope or Cardinal McCloskey or for Henry Ward Beecher. There are no better institutions in the world than the public schools of America. They are the safest places for parents to send their children. If some do not desire to hear the Bible read let them not listen. As it is, however, and sad to relate, there is but too little of the Bible read. In conclusion the speaker urged his auditors to vote for no man who despised the Bible, as such a one would prove to have no guiding principle beyond self interest.

Before beginning his sermon, the speaker called attention to the fact that it is proposed to open a building in the neighborhood to be occupied by the congregation. Rev. Mr. McCaffrey would preside over the services, giving his own labors gratuitously. The expenses of the maintenance of the church will be $3,800 per annum, the pews being free to the poor. It will worship under the liturgy and in the communion of the Protestant Episcopal Church. An appeal is made to Irish Protestants and others for aid in the enterprise. Subscriptions are to be sent in to Rev. D. M. McCaffrey, at No. 558 Lexington avenue.

THE SIN OF DETRACTION.

SERMON BY REV. FATHER LYNCH AT ST. ANN'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

Rev. Father Lynch preached yesterday at St. Ann's Roman Catholic Church, East Twelfth street. The subject of his discourse was the sin of detraction, and his text was taken from the Epistle of St. James, iii., 2; "If any man offend not in word the same is a perfect man." The passage, he said, led to the consideration of sins of the tongue, which were also pointed at in many of the passages of the Scripture. Detraction was so common a sin, and so much indulged in, that persons were apt to forget its enormity, and were blind to its many injustices. There were some vices the very names of which appalled us, but the tongue was insinuating, and its vices were apt to escape our attention. We were living at a time, said the preacher, when the secrets of families were set forth unblushingly in the public prints, and when, with the perversity of human nature, slanderous statements were accepted without reflection, and without any expectation of contradiction. Therefore, it was the more necessary that people should reflect upon the enormity of the sin of detraction, upon its characteristics, and the remedies for which it called. The preacher here defined the nature of calumny as distinct from simple slander. To calumniate was to attribute to a neighbor sins which he had not committed, while slander consisted of the revelation of offenses of which he was really guilty, but which would be unknown or secret but for that revelation. The calumniator told falsehoods concerning his neighbor's character; the slanderer told the simple truth, but without necessity. No close process of reasoning was necessary to convince one of the enormity of calumny. Its injustice and its uncharitableness were palpable. St. Paul included the calumniator among the people who would never see God, and whatever would be true of the sin of detraction would be true in a still greater sense of the sin of calumny. If any one supposed that he was at liberty to tell the truth about his neighbor he would be readily convinced of his error by putting himself in that neighbor's position and applying the golden rule of charity, of doing unto others as we would they should do unto us. Every man possessed a certain reputation among his circle of friends and in the community in which he lived, and to deprive him of that would be to commit a more serious injury against him than by robbing him of his goods or his money. A good name was better than riches. The offense of calumny or detraction involved three distinct sins. First, it wounded the detracter's own soul, then it injured the reputation of his neighbor, and, lastly, it gave occasion of offense to others. The tongue was a little member, but it could work great evils. The detractor could never tell the full extent of the offense which he committed, for it expanded in its proportions as it advanced. If the sin of detraction was capable of producing such terrible results, how could the iniquity of those be measured who devoted themselves almost entirely to the retailing of gossip? There were some people who were always complaining that they had no time to attend to their own affairs, and yet busied themselves unceasingly with the affairs of their neighbors. They were forever collecting food for gossip in this way, and then doling it out, colored by their own imagination and surmises. Their mouths were as an open sepulchre, and they dealt deceitfully with their tongues. One of the prominent characteristics of the detractor was his presumption, but what was presumption in the common slanderer was positive audacity in the calumniator. His falsehoods were leveled against the most august personages, and against persons whose virtue was a standing stigma on his own life. Detraction was not only a sin against charity, but it was also a sin against justice, and no theft was not forgiven until the goods stolen were restored, so detraction could not be forgotten until reparation was made. In both cases justice was violated. The detractor was not alone accountable for the original offense, but also for all the consequences proceeding from his slander. In conclusion, the preacher commented how far listeners were to blame, quoting the words of St. Jerome, who declared that it was difficult to determine whether the detracter or the listener was the more criminal, for if there were no listeners there would be no detractors. As a remedy against the sin of detraction, he counseled his hearers to treasure up the words of St. James: "If any man think himself religious, not bridling his tongue, that man's religion is vain."

THE PROPOSED HAWAIIAN TREATY.

FORTHCOMING REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS ON THE BILL TO CARRY THE TREATY INTO EFFECT.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—Representative Fernando Wood has prepared a report to accompany the bill, which will be reported from the Committee on Ways and Means, to carry into effect the convention between the United States and his Majesty the King of the Hawaiian Islands. The report says this is strictly a commercial treaty, so far as the Government of the Hawaiian Islands is concerned, but contains provisions favorable to the United States of a commercial and political character. In the papers marked "confidential," submitted by the President to the Senate for its consideration, with a view to the ratification of the treaty, is a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury presenting a comparative statement of the trade of the two countries for the past five years, which shows a balance in favor of the Hawaiian Islands. This trade is chiefly in tropical or semi-tropical products, as imported, and in miscellaneous products of the United States, as exported. So far as the aggregate value in the amount of the commerce between the two countries is concerned, it is not of great importance. It is, however, an interesting fact that those Islands buy from us a larger amount of our products, in proportion to what we take from them, than any other of the sugar or coffee producing countries. The Secretary of the Treasury does not attach importance to the loss of revenue growing out of the ratification of the treaty. Agreeing with his predecessors, who have been consulted on the subject, in the approval of a treaty of this character with the Hawaiian Islands. There is no doubt that, looked upon as simply a revenue measure, there would not seem to be immediate advantage to the United States; but when we take into consideration not only the present but the prospective commerce of the Pacific, it cannot be disputed that it is of much greater advantage to us than to the other party to the treaty. This treaty authoriz

TERMINAL FACILITIES.

COMPLAINTS OF MERCHANTS.

THE BAD CONDITION OF THE STREETS AN IMPEDIMENT TO COMMERCE—FACILITIES OF THE TRUNK LINES FOR RECEIVING AND DELIVERING MERCHANDISE.

There has been for some time past considerable discussion among the merchants of New-York in regard to the lack of terminal facilities at this port. The difficulties met with in the receipt and shipment of grain were fully considered in a report of the Committee on Terminal Facilities of the Cheap Transportation Association, which report was presented at the recent annual meeting of that association. Apart from the matter of the grain trade, there has been from many quarters a general outcry in regard to the lack of the necessary accommodations for the receipts and shipment of general merchandise for the inland trade. From the statements of a number of prominent merchants called on within the last few days by a representative of THE TIMES, it appears that the principal evils complained of are the bad condition of the streets in the lower part of the city, the obstructions to traffic in the streets, and the difficulty of access to the different piers and the depots of the various railroad and steamboat lines. It is alleged by the merchants that the surface of the streets is so rough, the pavements are so much out of repair, and so many street railroad tracks are laid through some of the principal thoroughfares that it is impossible for an ordinary team to haul a fair load. They say that on account of the many deep ruts and holes the streets are frequently blockaded, causing serious and vexatious delays. Besides these inconveniences, they say that the expenses incurred in repairs on vehicles and harnesses and in the disabling of animals employed are enormous and far in excess of those in any other port. By some of the merchants it has been estimated that the yearly wear and tear on vehicles and animals is fully twenty-five per cent of their value. In Winter, when there is a heavy fall of snow, the difficulties of transportation are greatly increased. The snow thrown from the roofs and sidewalks and from the railroad tracks lies in two high ridges on the sides of the streets, thus making it impossible for a loaded truck to pass, except along the railroad tracks. Under these circumstances, whenever one vehicle stops, a stoppage is occasioned along the whole line, and a vast amount of time is lost. Under such conditions the merchants claim that their expenses are so great that they cannot compete successfully with their rivals in other cities, and that the delays are so annoying as to cause their customers to go elsewhere. They speak very bitterly of the vast sums expended by the municipal authorities in constructing boulevards and laying out cross streets in the upper part of the City, which they assert will not be of any use to any one for years to come, while the streets down town are allowed to remain in a disgraceful condition. In regard to the obstructions so frequently met with in the business portion of the City there are also many complaints. It is asserted that on many occasions "blocks" occur simply on account of the trucks and wagons not in the end left standing along the sides of some of the principal down town thoroughfares, by persons who are either unable or unwilling to keep them elsewhere.

The facilities for receiving and delivering goods at the different piers and depots are also said to be inadequate to meet the requirements of the commerce of the port. In the busy season, long lines of trucks and drays may often be seen standing for hours at a time at the approaches to the points of receipt and shipment, and in cold weather the drivers and horses are exposed to severe suffering. This state of things, the merchants say, is to be attributed not only to the smallness of the space occupied by the transportation companies, which does not permit of the proper handling of packages, but also to the lack of a sufficient number of men to receive and store them promptly as they come in. But while it is agreed that these impediments to trade are most vexatious, and are in many instances the causes of direct loss, no one has yet been able to suggest a remedy that will afford general relief. The opinion, however, is almost unanimous that immediate steps should be taken to repair the uneven streets and to provide for the prompt removal of the mounds of snow that accumulate after every heavy snow-storm. It is also thought that some action should be taken by the Municipal authorities to regulate the street traffic, and that stringent rules should be adopted and rigidly enforced to prevent any unnecessary obstruction of the thoroughfares.

FACILITIES OF THE NEW-YORK CENTRAL ROAD.

With a view of ascertaining the extent of the terminal facilities of the trunk lines running out of this City, a TIMES reporter visited the offices of the several companies. Mr. William H. Vanderbilt, Vice President of the New-York Central, was first called on. In reply to a request for information in regard to his road on this point, he said: We have now in the City nine regularly-established freight stations, besides the division stations on the line of road within the City limits. On the East River there are three, Piers Nos. 3, 5, and 6, and these, with Piers Nos. 18 and 19 on the Hudson River, which are covered in, are the lowest receiving points we have down town. All the freight received at these places is taken by water to our depot at Thirty-third street, where it is transferred to the cars. Our most central down-town point is the St. John's Park Depot, where the merchandise is transferred directly to the cars from the trucks for transportation to the West without being rehandled. This we consider one of the best freight depots in the City, as there is ample room for the proper dispatch of business, and there is rarely any delay experienced by truckmen in delivering or receiving their loads. The freight agent in charge has positive orders to clear away and ship all freight on the day it is received, and each day's receipts are sent away before the building is closed for the night. He also has orders to employ as many hands as he may deem necessary to accomplish the work within the time. A large amount of inward freight is received here, and in the upper stories of the building there are large halls used for storing goods. An extensive tobacco inspection is also carried on in the upper stories, principally devoted to case tobacco received from this and adjacent States. The Thirty-third Street Depot, on the Hudson, where all the freight taken at the several piers, as well as river freight, is received and placed on the cars, is also the point at which all our outgoing trains are made up, and where the cars loaded at St. John's Park are attached to the regular trains. At this depot there are three piers extending into the Hudson, with four railroad tracks on each, a large freight yard, and extensive sheds to protect the goods from the weather. All the goods for our road from the upper part of the City are shipped here, and especially all of that class which is intended to go in cars without change to the point of destination. Furniture, large plates of glass, heavy pieces of iron, &c., come under this head, and persons are allowed to pack their goods in the cars if they wish to do so. At Manhattanville there is another freight station, at which all goods from Harlem and all the northern part of the City are shipped. At our depot at Sixty-fifth street, on the Hudson, our stock yards are situated, and at this point also all the petroleum carried on our road is received and delivered. The petroleum is never allowed to remain on the premises, however, any longer than is absolutely necessary, and is at once shipped to the different consignees by lighter. The grain elevator we propose to erect at this depot we now hope to have completed within the present year. The difficulties encountered in obtaining a proper foundation have been overcome, and the terms of a contract for the stone work of the building were lately agreed on. When finished this elevator will have a capacity of 1,500,000 bushels. At the foot of Twenty-second street, on the Hudson, we have an extensive yard for storing lumber, where cars can be placed and the lumber, logs, &c. can be either taken away by the consignees or placed in store at a slight expense. In Williamsburg, and at other points on the Long Island side of the East River, we have regular stations where merchandise is received and transferred in covered barges to the Thirty-third Street Depot. Besides the facilities mentioned, our agents are instructed to send lighters to take freight at any point on either the Hudson or the East River without extra charge when there is a sufficient quantity to warrant it. When our elevator and the other improvements at Sixty-fifth street are fully completed I think that so far as the New-York Central is concerned we will have done everything that we can do for the present. Of course an entirely new system of docks and warehouses may be inaugurated along our whole water-front and great benefits to commerce may follow, but these are in the future and are not to be considered when we speak of what is being done to-day.

THE ERIE AND PENNSYLVANIA LINES.

At the office of the Erie Railway, Vice President Blanchard gave the following information in regard to the terminal facilities of the Erie Road: The lowest down-town receiving point is known as the East River Station, at Pier No. 8 East River, where all classes of freight are received and taken to the general depot at Jersey City in covered barges for shipment in the cars. This is the only regular freight station established by the Erie Railway on the east side of the City. On the Hudson River the principal freight depot is known as the Duane Street Station. It embraces Piers Nos. 30, 31, and 32, and extends along the river from Warren to Jay street. The whole is under roof, and the goods received are shipped on cars brought from Jersey City on floats carrying from eight to ten cars each, which, as soon as loaded, are taken away, and others are put in their places. The next receiving point on the Hudson is the pier at the foot of Twenty-third street, which is also under cover, and where all classes of freight are also received. From this pier the goods are taken to Jersey City on barges in the same way as from the East River Station. In Williamsburg, at the foot of South Fifth street, there is a large freight station, principally for the receipt of sugar, coffee, &c. At this depot merchandise is shipped directly on the cars, which are carried there on floats, as at the Duane Street Station. At the depot in Pavonia avenue, in Jersey City, all freight intended to go in separate cars is received, and shippers are allowed to pack their goods in the cars to suit themselves. All heavy freight is also received at this depot, and special arrangements have been made for placing it on the cars. At Weehawken all petroleum, crude and refined, is shipped and stored, as well as lumber and stone in quantities. At the Oak Cliff Station the stock-yards of the road are located, and lumber and stone are also shipped. The principal freight depot in Jersey City is known as "Long Dock," and at this point all the loaded cars and the goods received from the different piers in New-York on barges are received. Here all the outgoing trains are made up, excepting those quite as large as the first. Out of this depot, and opening, and through what they conceive to be three others similar at least in size, their way seemed to gradually ascend, until their hearts were made glad by the discovery of light ahead, and finally emerged from their ugly confinement through a hole about midway the cliff of Russell's Creek, having been confused in their subterranean discovery over thirty-eight hours. The whole country thereabout is rife with speculations concerning the interesting discovery, and numbers of citizens will visit it as soon as the Messrs. White finish their work of rendering the entrance less difficult to pass. The above is a correct account and may be relied on, as the young men are of unimpeachable veracity. With a party from town, your correspondent will start in the morning to further explore, and should new curiosities present themselves, will give you them the account of an eye-witness.

CO-OPERATION SUGGESTED.

A gentleman well versed in railroad matters, in the course of a conversation in regard to the above and kindred topics, said, a few days ago, that the representatives of the railroads were alive to all the exigencies of the business, and were ready and anxious to co-operate with the mercantile community in anything that would benefit the commerce of the City. While thought, however, that to a certain extent there was a lack of public spirit among the merchants. It seemed as if each was bent on looking to his own particular interest, without regard to the general benefit or loss. Each seemed to have his own special grievance in some matter which, in his opinion, amply sufficient to meet all the demands that might be made upon them. All their receiving points were on the North River. Piers Nos. 1 and 2 were built under cover. At the first, general freight for their own road, and for the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, who shipped all their freight from this City over the Pennsylvania Road, was received. At the second, freight for the Lehigh Valley Railroad, as far as Metuchen, was received. At Piers Nos. 4 and 5 Western freight for the Pennsylvania Road was received, and at Pier No. 16, local New-York and Eastern Pennsylvania freight was taken. Further up the river they had another large depot at Pier No. 38, for the receipt of general freight. As all these points the goods were placed on cars brought on floats from Jersey City. When loaded these cars were taken to different points on the Jersey side and made up into trains according to the places to which they were to go. Goods were also received at their Jersey City slips and at their depot at Harsimus from lighters and other vessels. All their bulky articles were also received at Harsimus, such as lumber, stone, iron work, &c. Their stock-yards were also situated at the same place. Like the New-York Central and Erie Companies, his agents, when informed that any considerable amount of freight awaited shipment at any point on either of the rivers, would send, at the expense of the railroad, a barge or lighter for it.

The gentleman representing the railroad interests agreed with the merchants in unanimously concurring in the bad condition of the streets. In their opinion the principal cause of the delays in Winter was the accumulation of snow and ice between the railroad tracks and the sidewalks, thus preventing the free passage of vehicles. One of the gentlemen spoken with said that in one respect he thought the merchants themselves were to blame for the crowding and pushing that occurred among the truckmen at the different receiving points. They all put off shipping their goods until late in the afternoon, and that caused the trouble. Why this was he did not know, but it was undoubtedly the case. In his opinion, if the merchants would only send their packages to the depots earlier in the day a great deal of trouble would be avoided and much time saved. The railroads were prepared, and were able, to carry fully one-third or one-half more freight than was now offered, or that was offered even in the busiest season.

A KENTUCKY CAVE STORY.

REPORTED DISCOVERY BY TWO YOUNG MEN NEAR COLUMBIA—THREE HUMAN SKELETONS OF EXTRAORDINARY PROPORTIONS.

Correspondence of the Louisville Courier-Journal.

COLUMBIA, Jan. 30, 1876.

About the middle of the past week two young men named White, while idly wandering in a large tract of wild, dense forest, in the south-eastern part of our county, discovered what they supposed to be a sink-hole or fox-den, and with that idea proceeded to explore it. After a little trouble in making their way through the entrance, the cave (for such it proved to be) became large enough to admit of their walking upright. They had proceeded thus in this passage probably 150 yards, when they emerged into a large and picturesque gallery, the beauty and grandeur of which will rival that of the old Mammoth itself. The room, according to their calculations, is about 150 by 100 feet, and abounds in all the varieties of the stalactites and stalagmites. But 'tis not the things that we naturally expect to find in caves that I wish to mention particularly, but the curious remains that were discovered therein. In the northeast corner of the first gallery, (for there are five, of which I will hereafter speak,) about five feet from the ground, they noticed some strange characters or hieroglyphics neatly carved in the wall, which, upon close examination, proved to be the head-rock of a vault. A few minutes' prizing served to loosen this and disclose to view the interior of an inclosure in the solid rock of about five by ten feet, which contained the remains of three skeletons, which measure eight feet seven and a half inches, eight feet five inches, and eight feet four and three-quarter inches in length respectively. The heads were lying toward the east, each body parallel to the other. Beswords, but they were so decayed that upon being touched they crumbled to dust. After examining the remains closely, but finding nothing that would serve to throw any light on the question as to who and from whence they are, they closed the vault, but in doing so, knocked their torch out, which anything but a pleasant predicament. After searching some time for their lost treasure, they concluded to try to escape by feeling their way out, but in this they made the matter worse. They stated that after leaving the first large room they five others similar at least in size, and finally emerged from their ugly confinement through a hole about midway the cliff of Russell's Creek, having been confused in their subterranean discovery over thirty-eight hours. The whole country thereabout is rife with speculations concerning the interesting discovery, and numbers of citizens will visit it as soon as the Messrs. White finish their work of rendering the entrance less difficult to pass. The above is a correct account and may be relied on, as the young men are of unimpeachable veracity. With a party from town, your correspondent will start in the morning to further explore, and should new curiosities present themselves, will give you them the account of an eye-witness.

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS.

SALES AT THE STOCK EXCHANGE—FEB. 5.

SALES FROM 9:30 TO 3 P. M.

$5,000 Reg. 5s, '81	117⅞	400 North-western	41⅝
10,000 D. of C. 3.65s	71⅜	100 do	41¾
50,000 do	71½	600 do	41⅝
1,000 H. & S. J. 8s, C.	88	200 do	41⅝
1,000 do	83½	200 do	41¾
6,000 do	83¼	1500 North-west. Pref.	62¾
10,000 Un. Pac. L. G.	101½	200 do	63
100 Erie Railway	16⅝	100 do	63⅛
900 Western Union	76¾	400 do	63¼
100 do	76¾	100 Rock Island	103¼
100 do	76⅝	300 St. Paul	38
600 do	76¾	200 do	41⅞
100 do	76⅝	800 do	42
200 do	76¾	100 St. Paul Pref.	77¼
600 do	76⅝	100 do	77¼
1300 do	76¾	900 do	77¾
300 do	76⅞	300 do	77⅜
200 do	77	1700 do	77⅜
100 do	76⅞	100 do	77¼
100 U. S. Express	67	100 Toledo & Wab	67¾
90 do	66	100 Del., Lack. & W.	118⅞
200 Pacific Mail	33⅜	300 Ohio & Miss	21⅝
300 do	34⅞	100 do	21¾
200 do	35	50 Chic. & Alton Pf.	109¼
600 do	35¼	300 C., C. & I. C	5½
1000 Lake Shore	65⅞	100 New-Jersey So	7⅝
1300 do	65¾	300 Pacific R. of Mo	13½
90 do	65⅞	100 do	13⅜
2100 do	65¾	100 do	13⅛
1500 do	65⅞	300 do	13⅞
100 do	66	200 do	13⅞
100 do	66	100 do	13¾
100 do	65⅞	200 do	13⅝
700 do	66	200 do	13¾
100 do	66	100 do	13⅝
100 do	66	100 Kansas & Texas	8⅝
1600 do	66¼	100 do	8⅝
200 do	66¼	100 Mich. Central	60⅝
	66¼	100 Harlem	130½

MONDAY, Feb. 7—A. M.

The statement of the Associated Banks issued from the Clearing-house on Saturday last shows an increase in specie of $1,089,100, due to Treasury payments for February interest. There is a loss of $673,800 in legal tenders, which is probably to be explained by the speculative movement of the week. The increase in loans of $3,860,400 may be due to rediscounting for Western and Southern banks and to purchases of Government bonds by banks, which have been charged to the loan account. The changes in the other items explain the increase of $4,485,200 in the deposit line. There is a decrease in excess of lawful reserve of $706,000, and the banks now hold $14,799,725 above legal requirements.

The following shows the condition of the banks this week compared with the previous statement, and with the statement for the corresponding week last year:

	Jan. 29.	Feb. 5.	Feb. 6, 1875.
Loans	$269,307,000	$266,067,400	$291,197,700
Specie	22,481,700	23,570,800	37,500,100
Legal Tenders	48,030,000	47,356,200	15,162,400
Deposits	290,023,900	294,509,100	257,275,400
Circulation	17,757,300	17,449,300	23,642,200

And the following the relations between the total reserve and total liabilities of the banks:

Specie	$22,481,700	$23,570,800	Inc. $1,089,100
Legal Tenders	48,030,000	47,356,200	Dec. 673,800
Total reserve	$70,511,700	$70,927,000	Inc. $415,300
Res've req'd against deposits	53,005,975	56,197,975	
Excess of reserve above leg'l requirements	15,505,725	14,799,725	Dec. $706,000

The money market was easy during the past week, and low rates of interest prevailed. The Government bond dealers were supplied at 3@4 ₱ cent., and borrowers on stock collaterals at 4 to 6 ₱ cent. for call loans. The business in discounts was moderate, prime names having been in active demand, with sales at 5 to 6½ ₱ cent.

The foreign advices reported but little change in the London market for Consols and United States Bonds, which were in the main firm. The Bank of England made a gain of £109,000 sterling for the week ending Wednesday, but since then the Bank has lost £61,000. The sterling exchange market was firm early in the week, rates having been advanced to $4 86½ for long and to $4 90 for demand bills. Subsequently a reduction was made to $4 86 and $4 89½ under increased offerings of bills and a material falling off in the demand, the latter being in part due to the cessation of bond importations owing to the equalization of the London and New-York markets. The gold speculation was dull and weaker, the highest and lowest prices having been 113¼ and 112¾. The decline was occasioned by the payments on account of February interest by the Treasury and the consequent gain of specie by the banks, as shown in Saturday's exhibit. Cash gold was easy and loaned at 2 to 6 ₱ cent. for carrying.

Government bonds were less active than of late, and prices at the close showed a decline of ⅛ to ⅜ ₱ cent. from the highest point of the week. The greatest decline was in 1867s, which were sold together with other issues freely by the German bankers. Currency sixes exhibited strength, advancing to 125¼ at the close. Railroad bonds were irregular, on a decreased volume of business. C., C. & I. C. firsts fell off to 52¾, and Hannibal & St. Joseph Convertible to 83, a decline of 3¾ for the former and 2 ₱ cent. for the latter. The changes in the remainder of the list were less important. Toward the close the Western issues were strong and advanced. The Central and Union Pacific bonds were firm, and other prominent issues showed an improvement over the quotations of the previous week. In State bonds District of Columbia 3.65s fell off from 70¼ to 69⅜, and later advanced to 72@73¼ on the passage by the Senate of the House bill for the payment of the interest due Feb. 1. Tennessees declined 2@3 ₱ cent., but closed at a partial recovery.

Speculation on the Stock Exchange exhibited strength and buoyancy in the early dealings, but subsequently a break in Pacific Mail and Western Union exercised a somewhat demoralizing influence on the market, and a general decline in prices ensued. The weakness developed by Pacific Mail was due to reports in regard to the establishment of a rival line, assisted by free sales, while as to Western Union rumors prevailed that there was about to be a fierce telegraphic war inaugurated between that company and the Atlantic and Pacific Telegraph Company. The decline in the active speculative stocks following the break in these shares ranged from ½ to 4¾ ₱ cent. For the late dealings speculation was characterized by a firmer tone, and prices showed a recovery of ½ to 1 ₱ cent. from the lowest point. Investment shares were as a rule strong.

COURSE OF MARKET—THE WEEK.

	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing Feb. 6.	7.
American gold	113¼	112¾	113⅜	113⅝
U. S. 5s, 1881, coupon	117⅜	117¼	117⅜	117⅝
U. S. 5-20s, 1867, coupon	122⅛	122⅛	122⅜	122⅝
New-York Central	119	118¾	119	119⅛
Rock Island	103⅞	103⅝	103⅞	103⅞
Pacific Mail	35¾	34¾	35	35⅛
St. Paul	42⅜	41½	42	42⅛
St. Paul Preferred	77½	77¼	77⅜	77⅝
Lake Shore	68⅜	65¾	66⅛	66¼
North-western	42⅝	41⅝	41⅞	41⅞
North-western Preferred	64	63¼	63⅜	63⅝
Western Union	80½	75¾	76⅞	77⅛
Union Pacific	73	72⅞	72⅞	72⅞
Toledo and Wabash	6½	6⅜	6⅜	6⅜
Del., Lack. & Western	119	118¼	118⅞	119
New-Jersey Central	109⅜	107¾	108	108⅛
Panama	133	130	131½	132
Erie	17⅝	16½	16⅝	16⅝
Ohio and Mississippi	24½	21⅝	22⅜	22⅝
C., C. and I. C	5⅞	5⅛	5⅛	5⅛
Harlem	136⅝	136½	136½	136½

RANGE OF PRICES AND CLOSING QUOTATIONS—FEB. 5.

	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing. Bid.	Asked.
New-York Central	112	111¾	111⅞	112
Harlem	136⅝	136½	136½	137
Erie	16⅞	16½	16⅝	16⅝
Erie Preferred				35
Lake Shore	66⅜	65⅝	66⅛	66¼
Wabash	6⅛	6⅛	6⅛	6¼
North-western	42	41⅝	41⅞	41⅞
North-western Preferred	63¼	62⅜	63¼	63⅝
Rock Island	103¼	103¼	103½	103⅝
Fort Wayne			100¾	101¼
Milwaukee & St. Paul	42¼	41⅝	42	42⅛
Milwaukee & St. Paul Pf.	77⅜	76⅞	77	77¼
Pittsburg	95½	95	94⅜	95
Del., Lack. & Western	118⅞	118⅝	118⅝	118⅞
New-Jersey Central			108⅞	109¼
Michigan Central	60⅜	60½	60⅜	60¾
Illinois Central	93	93	97¾	98
Union Pacific	68¾	68¾	68¾	68¾
Central Pacific			100	101
C., C. & Indiana Central	5⅛	5⅛	5	5¼
Hannibal & St. Joseph	21	20¾	20½	21
Hannibal & St. Joseph Pf.	31¼	31	30¾	31
Ohio & Mississippi	22	21½	21⅝	21½
Missouri Pacific	14¼	13	13¼	13½
Panama		130	131½	132
Western Union	77	76¼	76⅞	77

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Rock Island	103⅞	103⅝	103⅞	103⅞
Pacific Mail	35¾	34¾	35	35⅛
St. Paul	42⅜	41½	42	42⅛
St. Paul Preferred	77½	77¼	77⅜	77⅝
Lake Shore	68⅜	65¾	66⅛	66¼
North-western	42⅝	41⅝	41⅞	41⅞
North-western Preferred	64	63¼	63⅜	63⅝
Western Union	80½	75¾	76⅞	77⅛
Union Pacific	73	72⅞	72⅞	72⅞
Toledo and Wabash	6½	6⅜	6⅜	6⅜
Del., Lack. & Western	119	118¼	118⅞	119
New-Jersey Central	109⅜	107¾	108	108⅛
Panama	133	130	131½	132
Erie	17⅝	16½	16⅝	16⅝
Ohio and Mississippi	24½	21⅝	22⅜	22⅝
C., C. and I. C	5⅞	5⅛	5⅛	5⅛
Harlem	136⅝	136½	136½	136½

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Milwaukee & St. Paul Pf.	77⅜	76⅞	77	77¼
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Del., Lack. & Western	118⅞	118⅝	118⅝	118⅞
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Michigan Central	60⅜	60½	60⅜	60¾
Illinois Central	93	93	97¾	98
Union Pacific	68¾	68¾	68¾	68¾
Central Pacific			100	101
C., C. & Indiana Central	5⅛	5⅛	5	5¼
Hannibal & St. Joseph	21	20¾	20½	21
Hannibal & St. Joseph Pf.	31¼	31	30¾	31
Ohio & Mississippi	22	21½	21⅝	21½
Missouri Pacific	14¼	13	13¼	13½
Panama		130	131½	132
Western Union	77	76¼	76⅞	77

Highest, Lowest, Closing.

	Highest.	Lowest.	Bid.	Asked.
Atlantic & Pacific Tel	20⅝	20⅜	20¼	20½
Pacific Mail	35½	35⅜	35	35⅜
Quicksilver			17½	17¾
Adams Express	108½	108¼	108	109
Wells-Fargo & Co. Ex			84¾	85¼
Am. Mer. Union Express	59¼	59	59¼	59½
United States Express	67⅝	64	66	67

The import entries of foreign dry goods and general merchandise since July 1, 1875, are as follows:

July	$25,974,004	Dec. 11	$4,901,411
August	30,805,475	Dec. 18	5,370,516
September	23,527,508	Dec. 24	2,373,533
October	22,264,765	Dec. 31	4,329,760
Nov. 6	3,310,590	Jan. 8	7,528,539
Nov. 13	4,135,565	Jan. 15	8,889,000
Nov. 20	4,718,735	Jan. 22	5,876,576
Nov. 27	2,983,749	Jan. 29	5,294,431
Dec. 4	8,447,676	Feb. 5	6,756,299
Total			$177,515,453
Total same period in 1875			204,131,942
Decrease in 1876			$26,616,489

The export clearances of domestic produce and miscellaneous goods (including foreign articles re-exported) since July 1, 1875, are as follows:

July	$25,960,318	Dec. 7	$5,160,801
August	20,866,185	Dec. 14	6,540,980
September	20,930,040	Dec. 21	6,286,600
October	22,159,396	Dec. 28	3,739,434
Nov. 2	1,839,917	Jan. 4	4,012,328
Nov. 9	5,815,233	Jan. 11	5,169,396
Nov. 16	4,852,890	Jan. 18	5,050,011
Nov. 23	5,519,647	Jan. 25	5,610,523
Nov. 30	5,549,352	Feb. 1	5,098,396
Total			$159,194,497
Total same period in 1875			164,426,467
Decrease in 1876			$5,231,970
Gold, Feb. 5, 1876			112⅞
Gold, Feb. 6, 1875			114½

The exports of gold and silver from New-York since July 1, 1875, are as follows:

July	$8,754,151	Dec. 11	$399,000
August	3,954,627	Dec. 18	414,750
September	1,245,802	Dec. 24	293,785
October	1,957,605	Dec. 31	417,157
Nov. 6	604,151	Jan. 8	678,043
Nov. 13	358,418	Jan. 15	375,979
Nov. 20	397,500	Jan. 22	375,979
Nov. 27	706,564	Jan. 29	485,991
Dec. 4	351,686	Sept. 5	436,167
Total			387,746
Total same period in 1875			$29,140,802
Decrease in 1876			44,505,828
			$29,365,026

The Customs receipts in gold deposited in the New-York office of the United States Treasury and the gold interest paid out by the office since July 1, 1875, are as follows:

	Customs.	Gold Interest.
July	$9,593,617	$7,839,434
August	11,703,678	5,055,689
September	10,471,244	1,313,544
October	8,657,813	3,504,622
Nov. 13	1,673,100	2,607,100
Nov. 20	1,719,200	833,900
Nov. 27	1,733,900	350,600
Dec. 4	1,689,600	430,000
Dec. 11	1,538,000	244,700
Dec. 18	1,749,700	452,000
Dec. 24	1,298,000	83,200
Dec. 31	831,000	52,000
Jan. 8	872,000	6,585,000
Jan. 15	2,593,000	3,331,600
Jan. 22	1,561,300	1,513,000
Jan. 29	2,072,000	810,900
Feb. 5	1,421,600	419,800
	2,189,900	2,325,600
Totals	$63,440,141	$34,988,838

THE STATE OF TRADE.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 5.—Bark unchanged

The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, MONDAY, FEB. 7, 1876.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

WALLACK'S THEATRE.—JOHN GARTH—Mr. Lester Wallack, Mr. John Gilbert, Miss Ada Dyas.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.—PIQUE—Mr. Charles Fisher, Mr. D. H. Harkins, Miss Fanny Davenport.

UNION SQUARE THEATRE.—ROSE MICHEL.—Mr. C. R. Thorne, Jr., John Parselle, Miss Rose Eytinge.

BOOTH'S THEATRE.—JULIUS CÆSAR—Mr. Lawrence Barrett, Mr. F. C. Bangs, Mr. E. L. Davenport.

BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—NORMA, (Italian Opera.)—Mlle. Theresa Titiens, Signor Brignoli.

BROOKLYN THEATRE.—JANE EYRE—Miss Charlotte Thompson, Miss Ida Vernon, Mr. Frederic Robinson.

WOOD'S MUSEUM.—DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE—CURIOSITIES—Afternoon and evening.

COLOSSEUM.—GRAND SPECTACLE DIORAMA of the Prussian Siege of Paris. Afternoon and evening.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—VAUDEVILLE AND VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.—BURLESQUE, SONGS, and NEGRO COMICALITIES—Birch, Wambold, Backus.

TONY PASTOR'S NEW THEATRE.—NOVELTY AND VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT—Tony Pastor.

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF DESIGN.—EXHIBITION OF AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLORS.

ASSOCIATION HALL.—At 11:45—LECTURE by Dr. John Lord—"Abelard and Heloise."

PARISIAN VARIETIES.—VAUDEVILLE AND NOVELTY ENTERTAINMENT.

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ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED UNTIL 9 P. M.

The Washington correspondents are determined to keep Secretary BRISTOW in hot water. In vain does that gentleman deny every other day some fresh story in which he is made to play a part. The ingenuity and industry of the correspondents are too much for him. His "furious" quarrels with President GRANT and Senator CONKLING have been duly recorded in the "great American newspaper," and now we are assured that he has had a hand-to-hand tussle with Attorney General PIERREPONT. What it was all about no one seems to know, but we are glad to learn that the Secretary was doing well at the date of the last advices, and is now prepared to take the rest of the Cabinet one after the other. We should think, however, that he will be rather glad when the correspondents take it into their heads to pick out some other man as the object of their polite but too assiduous attentions.

If we may accept the statements of various Democratic journals, the hostile feeling which has long prevailed toward Mr. JOHN KELLY is not subsiding. The combination to drive him from his present position is now supported by a large number of persons belonging to the Tammany Hall organization, and it is backed up by the independent Democrats, who made their power felt so unmistakably last November. It is said that Senator KERNAN, Gov. SEYMOUR, and other leaders now recognize the necessity of a complete reorganization of the party in the City. The only obstacle is said to come from JOHN KELLY himself. This, perhaps, may be a little unfair, for there is no reason to suppose that Mr. KELLY has had any desire in reference to his party except to see it win. Let us be just, even to our adversaries. KELLY'S methods of carrying on a campaign are, indeed, more likely to produce disaster than victory; but we should think that the members of his own party could well afford to give him the credit of being actuated by good intentions.

A panic in a theatre, or in any other crowded building, is so certain to result in loss of life that it is the duty of every man and woman to decide beforehand on the course which they would pursue in the event of their being called upon to face the danger. In almost all such cases, the injury is done by a wild rush to the doors. It was so at Cincinnati—it has been so in nine instances of the same kind out of ten that have preceded it. The only sensible thing to do when a cry of fire is raised is to keep your seats. The chances of your being burned to death are much smaller than of your being crushed to death if you attempt to escape. It may require a little firmness and presence of mind in a moment of danger to carry out this rule, but it will generally be found a safe one. At a time when immense assemblies of men, women, and children are about to meet in the Hippodrome, it is not inopportune to offer this little bit of advice to the public. Whatever happens, sit still. It will always be found the best plan.

The Hawaiian treaty of commerce with the United States has already been ratified by both the contracting parties, but it requires legislation on the part of Congress to carry its provisions into effect. The Committee on Ways and Means have prepared a bill for this purpose and recommend its passage. In former days, reciprocal trade with the Sandwich Islands has been opposed by States interested in the production of sugar; and the argument now used by the friends of the new treaty is that this article of import will not come into competition with the product of any of the Atlantic States, and that the trade and commerce of the islands, now briskly competed for by various maritime nations, will be largely controlled by the United States if the proposed compact is executed. It may be added that the sugar and coffee plantations of the little kingdom are already in the hands of Americans, who naturally desire to see this commercial treaty put into operation. It is further argued that the autonomy of the Hawaiian Kingdom cannot be long maintained, and that the interests of the United States demand that we should early secure a footing which will give us superior advantages when the crisis arrives. This suggestion appears premature, but it is formally made in the report from the Ways and Means Committee.

It is reported that the House Committee on Foreign Affairs has decided to take away the only political capital possessed by the Democrats of the Pacific States. This is to be done by an adverse report on the joint resolution requesting the President to take steps to abrogate so much of the treaty with China as encourages the immigration of the Chinese. As this joint resolution was to have been followed by a bill to prohibit such immigration, it may be supposed that the action of the committee will conclude the whole matter. Latterly both political parties on the other side of the continent have favored unfriendly legislation on the subject referred to; but for several years past the Democrats have had no other local issue in California than this. If they are thus "wounded in the house of their friends," great will be their indignation. They have never been able to see that their opposition to the Burlingame treaty is neither wise, politic, nor generous.

The Cincinnati *Enquirer* has "interviewed" forty-five out of the sixty-one members of the Ohio Legislature, for the purpose of ascertaining their opinions in reference to the platform and candidates for the Presidential canvass. The forty-five are, it appears, in favor of a platform demanding the repeal of the Resumption act, and of a currency "equal to the wants of trade." With regard to the choice of candidates, there is much difference of opinion. Mr. BRUNNER declares himself, with an oath, in favor of "Old BILL ALLEN," while Mr. SWAIM and several others are for GEORGE H. PENDLETON. Mr. EYLAR says: "I am in favor of anybody for President but SAM TILDEN"—a very accommodating gentleman. Another member asks for HENDRICKS because he "has a soul bigger than a continent." The admirers of ALLEN and PENDLETON seem to be in the majority. Evidently the hard-money Democrats of the East will find it necessary to send out a good many missionaries to their benighted brethren in the West.

DEMOCRATIC PROSPECTS.

Gov. TILDEN makes very frequent excursions to this City, and no doubt, like a prudent man, takes the opportunity of consulting with his trusted friends on the course of political affairs. We doubt whether he or they can find much in the condition of their party to encourage very sanguine hopes as to the future. Even in this State, their prospects are not bright. Canal reform has been very skillfully used for electioneering purposes, but people generally begin to suspect that the reform itself consists more in words and promises than in deeds. The "prosecutions" for which the Governor took so much credit to himself do not make any visible progress. The final report of the Canal Commission is unaccountably delayed. The Republicans had long ago adopted measures which effectually prevented a repetition of the canal frauds, and now they are outstripping the Governor himself in his zeal to reach past offenders. In this City, the Democratic Party is all at sixes and sevens. Tammany shows no sign of recovery from the heavy blow it received last November. It is impossible to detect any quarter in which the popularity of the Governor or of his party is increasing.

If Mr. TILDEN extends his survey to other parts of the country, he will find nothing to put him in good spirits. The course of the Democrats in Congress has unquestionably made a strong impression upon the country, but it is an impression highly adverse to the party. It is plainly seen that there is little or no hope of getting the Democrats to unite on a single sound financial measure. The probability seems to be that the inflationists hold the balance of power in the House, and that they are determined to use it for the furtherance of their own projects. The introduction of a new tariff has temporarily diverted attention from the quarrels of Democratic leaders, which is so far an advantage to them, but it would be idle to pretend that it has strengthened the party. Numerous branches of trade have been disturbed by the proposal to make sweeping changes in the duties; and as the provisions of the tariff come to be better understood, it is plainly seen that large vested interests are threatened. It is known, for instance, that the oil trade is up in arms against the tariff, for while the duty is taken off the manufactured article, it is still retained on the raw material, so that the home manufacture would be almost completely destroyed. Foreign oils could be brought in here, but the seeds from which oil is made would still be subjected to heavy duties. A more ingenious device for closing our local manufactories could scarcely have been framed. There can scarcely be a doubt that other interests are placed in similar jeopardy, and when manufacturers have properly studied the proposed alterations, the hotels at Washington will scarcely suffice to provide accommodation for the deputations which will present themselves to make their grievances known to Congress. We do not believe, therefore, that the attempts of the Democrats to deal with the tariff will be so successful as to compensate for their serious blunders in reference to still more pressing financial questions.

When Gov. TILDEN turns his attention to his own immediate interests, the prospect must become still more depressing. It is not always to the advantage of a Presidential candidate to be too much talked about, months before the election is to take place; but it is rather awkward not to be mentioned at all. It is the "dark" horse which sometimes wins a race, but in order to win he must be entered for it. It is rather a remarkable fact that almost every prominent Democrat in the country has been spoken of for the Presidency except Mr. TILDEN. The *World* is, indeed, faithful to his fortunes, but the *World* will not be able to carry him single-handed. Out West, Mr. TILDEN is referred to, on the few occasions when any reference is made to him, in a strain which cannot be soothing to his feelings, and which proves quite as clearly as the longest arguments could do that by that section of the country he will never be accepted as a candidate. What is called "Tilden stock" can scarcely be quoted at any price beyond the limits of New-York State. We have not the slightest doubt that the West will absolutely control the Democratic nomination in the National Convention, and thus Mr. TILDEN is weakest where he ought to be strongest. He may get a delegation from his own State to vote for him, although even that is extremely doubtful—in fact, our opinion would be that the chances are all against it. But, conceding that he secured it, that would mark the extent of his influence. If these facts should induce the Governor to attend more closely to the actual business of his present office, and cease to concern himself with wild and hopeless dreams of reaching the White House, the public may possibly be the gainers. The work of canal reform, on the scale that Mr. TILDEN led people to suppose he had planned it, is sufficient to occupy the time and energies of one man, and we hope that the Governor will address himself to it, undisturbed by the Presidential will-o'-the-wisp.

ONE PRICE OF FREEDOM.

We are told that the price of freedom is eternal vigilance, but for a certain sort of freedom there is another price which is much more constantly paid. It was paid on Saturday by the son of Prof. WHITE, of Bowdoin College, who, in coasting, ran his sled across a railway track and was struck by a passing train and instantly killed. It was paid on the same day in Cincinnati by the women and children who were crushed in the vain attempt to flee from a danger that did not exist. But if in that Opera-house there had broken out one of those raging, flashing fires that rush through a building of that kind in a few minutes, the loss of life and cost from fire would probably have been greater. The fact that the terror which caused the rush was unfounded has no bearing upon the real cause of the injuries and loss of life that followed; they were due to improperly-constructed entrances and passageways. In New York, in every other city in the country, there are public buildings, and some of them those that are most frequently visited and by the most numerous assemblages, which are so faultily constructed that, in case of an alarm, even if it did not become a panic, the consequences would be frightful to think of.

This comes from what may be called in a parody of MILTON, the freedom of unlicensed building. We have, indeed, certain laws and ordinances in regard to building, and those which relate to protection against fire are enforced with at least some semblance of rigor; but those which relate to other perils are almost a dead letter. Of course it is said that money is used to procure immunity from these laws, and of course it is possible that such is the case; but, without that persuasive influence, there is in the disinclination which is so common with us to place a restraint on the action of any one, except in the most imminent peril of life or of property, a motive quite sufficient to account for the dangerous way in which theatres and other public buildings are allowed to be built.

This freedom of action which is so insisted upon by most of our people, and which no man who is not willing to be disagreeable and unpopular, if need be, will venture to restrain, leads us, men as well as boys, to defy all rules as to our presence upon a railway track. We *will* walk on it if we are men, and we *will* run our sleds across it if we are boys. We can look out for ourselves, we say, and the danger is our own. The consequence is that not a few of us are killed or maimed. But we, knowing that others have been killed or maimed, go on walking and driving and sledding in the teeth of peril. In other countries railways are inclosed so that men cannot drive their vehicles or boys their sleds across them; but we, with that disinclination to make anybody lay out money without prospect of an actual and speedy return, which is characteristic of our easy-going, good-nature, think that it would be quite too hard to make the poor railway companies spend their little earnings in saving people's lives; and thus our railways are man-traps.

And it is not only life that is thus expended, that every man of us may do as he pleases, but something far more valuable—money, greenbacks, Government bonds. The robbery of the bank at Northampton was preceded by the appearance of half a dozen strange men in the little town, who lounged about the hotels and bar-rooms and public buildings, with no apparent object in their coming but to pry and ask questions. When the money had disappeared from the bank, it was found that they had disappeared also. Their ability to make this reconnaissance is one part of the price we pay for our freedom—for that perfect liberty which we have, to go where we please, when we please, and be asked no questions; a liberty which we prize more highly than any other, if, indeed, we give it a thought, for we rather take it for granted, as we do freedom to breathe or to see. This freedom is of Anglo-Saxon growth. It exists perfectly nowhere but in England or in the United States and Canada. Elsewhere, if there is not an open restraint upon it, there is a surveillance of some sort which operates as a practical restraint, at least in the case of persons of suspicious character. But if there is perfect freedom in this respect, it must be enjoyed, like the sunlight or the air, by the evil and the good alike. Under Governments more paternal, half a dozen burglars could not go to a provincial town and spend days in making observations. They would be called upon to give an account of themselves. The Police would know of their presence, even as mere strangers, and would concern themselves about the matter, and find out whence the new-comers were, and what was the reason of their coming. We are happy, if not boastful, in our freedom from supervision and restraint on the part of our Government; and perhaps, when the question is considered in all its bearings, it is better on the whole that we should be as we are. But for this freedom we pay, and pay dearly. We pay for it every day in our exposure to imposition, to the adulteration of food and of almost every article that we use. We dislike to put restrictions upon trade, and to have a municipal officer prying into the composition of the fluids and solids that are sold by the grocer and other traders under various attractive names. In this respect we are the least protected people in the world; as we are in regard to the daily peril of life in divers ways. We have our freedom indeed, but we pay dearly for it in life and in money. It would be well if we could devise some way of diminishing our exposure to suffering and to loss, without imperiling our liberties.

STATE PRISONS.

The Republican Party in the Legislature have set themselves earnestly to the work of prison reform; and as a beginning they are about securing a commission to investigate the management of the prisons of the State during the past ten years. This commission will be no sham one, formed for political objects, but the members will be named in the bill, and be composed of persons the most respected in the State, from both parties. This, at least, is the purpose of leading Republicans.

It would not be an unwise feature of this proposed legislation if the same commission could have its powers extended so as to include the examination of the new buildings of the State for charitable as well as punitive purposes. As it is now, there is no one supervising mind, or even one Board of Trustees over these costly structures. The Asylum at Buffalo has been commenced on a gigantic scale, and each new appropriation seems to be swallowed up without any immediate benefit. The Hudson River Asylum, at Poughkeepsie, has been built in the most expensive style; the Reformatory at Elmira has already cost over a million. In fact, the only economical and sensible buildings put up by the State are the plain and cheap brick houses of the Willard Asylum on Seneca Lake. Here everything has been done in the most saving manner, and by erecting separate houses each addition could be used at once. The difficulty is that each locality urge the committee appointed by the Legislature to all sorts of extravagances and expenditures for the sake of ornamenting their village or county. There is no system or unity in these building plans, and the State is sprinkled with half-finished or fully-constructed buildings of the most expensive kind, which do not fully answer their purposes.

One very important matter which will come before this committee is the condition of thousands of young criminals in the county jails and State penitentiaries. These young men and women are too old for the Houses of Refuge—yet, often the offense for which they are committed is their first, or it is one not of calculation, but of sudden passion and temptation. They are of the kind whom all prison visitors know are easily reformed by good influences. As it is now, they are either kept in the county jails, with every description of hardened criminals, or they are sent to the State prisons, and there receive new lessons in crime from old ruffians and convicts. If our readers ever visit any country jail, they will certainly find young prisoners of this class rapidly training to graduate in crime.

The prison reformers have felt this evil so strongly for many years that they at length secured from the Legislature the passage of an act founding a new Intermediate or Reformatory Prison at Elmira. The expenses of this structure have, indeed, been beyond all reason. But now that it is built, it would be a great pity to lose sight of its object, and turn it into an ordinary penitentiary. Such a change, however, is proposed; and the New-York Prison Association has wisely protested against it at once, and appointed a committee, with Prof. THEODORE DWIGHT at the head, to argue against it before the Legislature. There never has been an intermediate prison in the State, yet all the best ideas of prison reform demand such an institution, so that a penitentiary should not become a school of criminals. We trust the experiment may be fairly tried at Elmira, and nothing introduced which would break up the plan.

This commission will have a deeply important work before them. The prisons of this State, with one or two exceptions, are a disgrace to our civilization. The Republican party ought to be the first to reform them. Possibly the amendment of the Constitution, which would place the prisons under officials appointed by the Governor and Senate, may assist in this end. But thorough exposure of the peculation, jobbery, log-rolling, and political trickery in connection with these institutions is what is first needed.

OUR ARMY.

When the question of reducing Army expenses comes before the House, as it soon must, it will probably be found that it is even more difficult to handle than some of those with which the Democratic majority are still wrestling. The general statement that the amount of money annually expended by the War Department is forty or fifty millions, in round numbers, seems to suggest a chance for retrenchment. And multitudes of citizens doubtless see in these large figures only the evidence of a great national waste. But these hasty critics are likely to forget that the annual appropriations made on the estimates of the War Department are designed to cover a great variety of operations. A very large proportion of the money is spent for works which might very properly be included in the civil service. Such is the confidence of the people in the honesty and prudence of the administration of military affairs, that it may be seriously questioned if any proposition to transfer any of this responsibility to other executive departments of the Government would be regarded with favor.

The cost of the whole military service for the present fiscal year is about forty and one-half millions. But from this amount may be deducted the four items, classed as follows: Signal service, $694,653; river and harbor improvements, $7,227,250; War Department expenses, $1,219,237; miscellaneous, $2,185,663, making a total of $11,326,803. Not one of these items can be charged to the account of the military establishment. If the signal service, which just now furnishes us with daily meteorological and other scientific data, is to be maintained at the cost of the nation, it may as well be kept where it is, but it is plainly not a military service; and the same is true of the public works in rivers and harbors. The War Department maintenance is also a civil expense. The military establishment, then, with these deductions, will cost $29,303,854. But these figures do not yet represent the expenses of the Army. The arsenals cost $1,242,165; the Army staff, $2,529,954; engineer corps, $364,446; ordnance, $1,097,434, and Military Academy, $402,561. In this last item some small saving has already been effected by reducing the pay of the cadets and the contingent income of the Professors; but this is inconsiderable, and with the above deductions we have $23,667,294 as the cost of the line of the Army, now consisting of less than twenty-three thousand men, including cavalry, artillery, infantry, recruits, and Indian scouts.

Relatively speaking, this is by no means an excessive sum. It is a ludicrous illustration of the sordid spirit with which the Democratic economists of the House approach the subject of retrenchment, that they should begin by cutting down the pay of the officers. One of the first strokes of frugality of Mr. RANDALL'S committee was to take a few dollars from the cost of maintaining the lads at West Point. The next is to cut off part of the pay of Army officers, of whom a majority are doing duty on the frontier, or at isolated points. According to a carefully prepared analysis of the condition, force, and situation of the Army, which lately appeared in the *Galaxy* magazine, nearly eleven thousand of the regular service are in the Western interior, an area which includes the Indian frontier, as we usually call it, and a vast and important mining region. The next largest fraction, less than three thousand, is stationed on the Northern frontier. About the same number is set down as occupied in guarding the Mexican boundary, and about twenty-five hundred men are in the Southern interior. These figures, which account for the disposition of the bulk of the Army, give some idea of its present duties, as well as of the justice of the proposition to reduce the compensation of field and company officers engaged in these unattractive duties.

It is quite possible that when the House considers the cost of some staff departments of the military service, it may discover expenses which may be judiciously cut down. But to announce a determination to reduce the pay of the officers in active service is certainly to make an unpromising beginning. Nor is it likely that the members of the House will find much popular support in any attempt to save money by stopping work on river and harbor improvements, arsenals, and fortifications. At this moment the House is besieged with applications for money to improve the navigation of rivers and lakes and enlarge harbors. As for the cost of fortifications and similar military works, every Congressman is known to stand in wholesome awe of his "district," every voter of which demands that the public money shall not cease to flow until the work in that locality calls for no more. The Democratic members have as much responsibility of this sort at home as they can take care of. Considering how vast is the national area, and how imperative is the necessity for a military constabulary on the frontiers and in the sparsely settled portions of the country, a reduction of the line would be most unwise. The completion of public works already begun cannot be abandoned without loss, and it is very doubtful if Congress would have the courage to attempt much retrenchment in this direction.

TOWN AND COUNTRY.

Few portions of the recent report of the State Assessors are more interesting than those which are devoted to a comparison of the relative value of property in town and country. They make evident, by figures and facts, the substantial correctness of the opinion, generally entertained, that while wealth is increasing in the cities and towns of this State, it is stationary or decreasing in the purely rural portions of it. The testimony of local Assessors, of Supervisors, and the records of land sales, all concur in showing that during the past six years there has been a general, though not uniform, decrease in the value of our farm lands, especially in the grain-producing sections of the State. While none of them show improvement, the majority exhibit a gradual deterioration; the yield per acre is less, the crop is more uncertain, and the price of labor is double what it was twenty years ago. As to the unimproved lands of the State, there are tens of thousands of acres of them now in the market at the same prices they were offered forty years back. Yet the State as a whole continues to increase in wealth, from the great appreciation of property in the cities and towns, and especially in this City. The net increase during 1874, the period covered by the report, was $198,472,229, or 9.15 per cent.; and it must be remembered that this year was the reverse of a prosperous one. In fifteen counties of the State the assessed valuation decreased during 1874 as compared with the year preceding. In all these counties the chief industry is agriculture; but there is reason to believe that this decrease in assessed values did not, in some instances, represent an actual decrease in the value of property so much as a desire to lighten taxation.

Of the immense inequality in the distribution of wealth, as between the City and the country, the report gives some interesting examples. We have no estimate of the probable value of land per acre in this City, but a very careful estimate is given of the value of farm lands in the several counties of the State. First on the list comes Dutchess County, at $89 per acre; Monroe follows at $80 per acre; Orleans and Seneca are put down at $73, and in five other counties the farm lands are valued at between $60 and $70 per acre. Essex is the lowest on the list, at $13, and next comes Steuben at $24 50. The valuations are made on market rates, and not on the valuation fixed by the local Assessors for purposes of taxation. The cost of a square foot of land on Broadway would buy an acre of the best farm land in Oneida County. During 1874 nineteen private houses were built in this City, each one of which, as shown by the report of the Superintendent of Buildings, cost a larger sum than the market value of any one of ten towns of Columbia County. The average cost of churches in small vilages and in the country is not over $8,000 each. One church was recently dedicated in this City which cost a sum sufficient to build 125 ordinary churches in the country. Finally, of the total real and personal property of the entire State, as shown by the census of 1870, more than one-half, or fifty-three per cent., was concentrated within the boundaries of Manhattan Island. There has been a great shrinkage of values since that year, and lots on Fifth avenue which sold in their unimproved state for $80,000 three years ago, could now be bought, with the houses on them, for $70,000, or less; but the Assessors, who had to defend themselves against the charge of making the City pay an undue proportion of the State tax, point out that the farmers of the State have suffered in a like degree with the owners of City property. In December, 1867, corn sold at $1 62, and wheat at $2 64 per bushel; last December, corn was selling at 73 cents, and wheat at $1 25. This represents an actual decrease in the value of the agricultural lands of the State, which is more likely to be permanent than the decrease in the value of City property, since the products of the newer and more fertile fields of the West are brought into the New-York market at the same prices as those of the grain-fields of our own State.

One point, however, in connection with the valuation of agricultural lands the report does not touch upon; yet it is curious that the Assessors, in the course of their extended inquiries throughout the State, should not have heard the not infrequent complaint that a very successful method of securing a low valuation of real estate is to underestimate its area. For instance, a farm is represented to be of 540 acres, and the local Assessor assesses its owner for this amount. But the actual area of the farm is 600 acres, and thus the owner escapes taxation on sixty acres. A striking example of this method of evasion was given in what is now the Twenty-third Ward of this City. A property-holder had been assessed for many years on ten acres of land; the local Assessor became convinced, from personal examination of the property, that its area was fully fifteen acres. He raised the assessment to that amount, but the owner remonstrated so strongly that the Assessor, in self-defense, surveyed the land at his own cost. It was then found that the supposed ten acres were really a fraction over seventeen. Again, the town of Flushing was recently surveyed, and it was found that scarcely one of the farms had its ares correctly stated in the deeds. One piece of property was assessed as consisting of forty acres; it proved to be nearly fifty-seven. This was an extreme case, but errors of five, nine, ten, and even twelve acres, in the estimate of quantities under one hundred acres, were by no means uncommon. As the City of New-York is all surveyed, there is no chance for real estate in it to be underestimated as to quantity; but there is little security for a just distribution of the State tax until the whole State is as accurately mapped as Manhattan Island is.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

DR. PRIME AND MR. BERGH.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

An article appears in to-day's TIMES, extracted from the *Ledger*, which refers to a transaction, not of recent occurrence, wherein I am charged with "cant and infidelity," because I defended myself from the attacks of Rev. S. Irenæus Prime, editor of a newspaper, half religious, half profane, as its title-pages demonstrate; or in stricter theological phraseology, half clerical and half secular. The insufficient incident which aroused the ire of Dr. Irenæus Prime at the time, and was ruled by the court in favor of the action of the officers of this society, afforded that gentleman, he thought, a coveted occasion to assail, through its President, an institution devoted to the alleviation of suffering, and the teaching and promulgation of the sentiments of mercy, the most gracious and pronounced attribute of that Deity whom he professes to serve.

In his published letter, which discourteously begins with a threat, I am rebuked for venturing to except to his declaration, that "the life and health of one human being, are of more value in the sight of God, than all the horses in New-York." In my reply to this I said: "As I understand the justice and wisdom of Almighty God, He entertains no discriminating partiality for any of His creatures, but His affection is extended to all alike. The insect in the plant, the moth which spends its brief hours of existence in hovering about the candle's flame, nay, the life which inhabits a drop of water, is as much an object of His special Providence as the mightiest monarch on his throne." You will please observe that *Soul* is nowhere mentioned, it is the *Life* of the creatures which he has condescended to create, with which I was dealing. In what manner His justice and mercy may be manifested hereafter to the humble beings which He has confided to the humanity of mankind, I know not; but it is not inconsistent with His goodness to reward them for their unmerited sufferings here. Permit me to quote the lines of Coleridge, which are so appropriate to the extraordinary assertion of Dr. Prime:

> "He prayeth well who loveth well
> Both man and bird and beast;
> He prayeth best who loveth best
> All things, both great and small;
> For the dear God, who loveth us,
> He made and loveth all."

There is no other book in the world that breathes so affectionate a spirit toward the dumb creatures of God's family below, or so fully exhibits the character of Jehovah as a God of boundless mercy, as the Bible. It is from it we learn with what paternal care our common Father in Heaven regards the meanest reptile that crawls on the earth. In the beginning of it we are informed (Genesis i., 30) that the beasts of the field, the fowl of the air, the reptiles that crawl upon the earth, and the fish that glide through the waters under it, are all objects of His beneficent Providence. No sooner were they called into being than He blessed them and assigned them an ample portion of space for their support. And when the world and its inhabitants were about to be destroyed by a flood, accommodation and sustenance were provided for them, as well as man. (Genesis vi., 21.)

When the Almighty ratified a solemn covenant with Noah, for himself and posterity, God expressly included them in its benefits. (Genesis, ix., 10.) When the Sabbath was instituted it was declared to be that they, as well as man, might rest. (Deuteronomy, xxv., 4.) From the Bible we learn that God rebuked by a miracle the cruel oppressor of one of the most despised of them. (Numbers, xxii., 28.) Moreover, that for their sakes He spared, in a great measure, a city which he had proposed to destroy for its iniquity, (Jonah, ix., 11,) while He visited with the most signal judgments His own peculiar people for their want of mercy and other cruelty, to His dumb creatures. (Hosea, iv., 3.)

I have reason to believe that Dr. Prime, animated by a spirit which seems to me unbecoming a Christian minister, is endeavoring to foment animosity by causing to be circulated about the State his own distorted version of the insignificant circumstances on which he bases his resentment.

The hostile periodical whose article you reproduced expresses its "satisfaction to see ministers of the Gospel coming forward," &c. If the quotations from the Bible which I have submitted be correct, and the singular minister whom his editor speaks of in a plural sense be the only element which conduces to his happiness, I do not envy any of his satisfaction, for there is clearly not sufficient to satisfy two healthy consumers. The truth is, no other minister of the Gospel but himself has publicly uttered a word on the subject, nor do I believe that any such coincide with him either in his conduct or theology. One word more, and I finish. If I were to be removed to-morrow from the performance of the onerous duties which I have imposed on myself, no other living being would be such a gainer as the subject of their abuse.

HENRY BERGH.

THE NEW TARIFF.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

As your correspondent, "J. S. Moore," states, in your issue of Feb. 5, that "this," (our statement that soda ash and sal soda are raw materials used to manufacture soap, glass, &c., from, while saleratus and bicarbonate of soda are not raw materials, which, in a former article, he claimed they were, "then settles the question on soda ash and sal soda, which your correspondent is willing to abandon." We *did no such thing* as abandon the question on soda ash and sal soda, for in our first article we said of the duty on these:

"On account of the high price of labor, coal, and salt, (chloride of sodium being the base of soda ash,) soda ash cannot be manufactured in the United States as cheaply as it can be imported duty paid or free. Hence the tax, in shape of duty paid, falls on the English manufacturer. The present duty is one-quarter of a cent per pound, gold. This should be left as it is."

And in the second (to which he now refers) we reasserted this, and also our major proposition in the following words:

"We come back to our original proposition at the close of our article, published in THE TIMES on Wednesday, the 2d inst., that, 'if, now, Congress sees fit to take off this duty, (as it be done intelligently) the benefit will be wholly thrown upon the consumer.' Take the duty off soda, other than bicarbonate, and the English manufacturer will simply add to his price and profits the amount of the duty our Government will lose.'"

And added:

"And that proposition stands uncontroverted, and should be the first thought in mind when approaching this question from any point. *Pro Bono Publico.*

Please emphasize that, Mr. Editor and readers of THE TIMES, so that no one may "somehow feel that your correspondent has chosen an unlucky *mons de plume*," and for the good of the whole people of the United States we say again, and we trust conclusively, "the present duty is one-quarter of a cent per pound, gold," on the raw material, and "this should be left as it is." This is "writing for revenue and not simply for protection," and if Mr. Moore don't see it now, your readers will. He says: "It is hardly worth while to haggle about the price of soda ash, or the freight, in the present state of freight; when the shipping trade is half ruined, the freight may really only be ten shillings." And we will only say, that the rates given by us in THE TIMES Feb. 4 are *facts*, and not to be "haggled" about at all; for this argument will be long closed ere the freight on imported soda reaches his figure, viz.: "£1 per ton."

We come now to the question as it relates to bicarbonate of soda and saleratus. As these articles are identical in commercial use, as we explained in our first letter, (see the TIMES for Feb. 2,) we shall speak of both, and as briefly as possible, under the term bicarbonate of soda.

For this we will take Mr. Moore's statement of the value of bicarbonate of soda imported in 1875, which, he asserts, "cost abroad about 3 42-100 cents per pound." To this we must add freight (which we call ten shillings, and he says should be "£1 per ton,") and the regular commission of two and a half per cent. paid by the English manufacturer to an agent here for attending to and disposing of the goods, and the price for English bicarbonate of soda on the dock in this City, *without any duty, at his figures*, (mind you *at his figures*, not ours,) would be 3-40 cents per pound, gold, or, calling gold thirteen per cent. premium, (113,) the price here, *without duty*, is a trifle over 3.94 *per pound, currency*, in kegs.

But the price here is as stated in ours, published Feb. 2:

"But from competition the price of these goods, in daily household use, has been lessened until they have reached far below what one would suppose they could be produced at. The best known brand in this country is to-day being sold to the trade at three and three-fourth cents in kegs."

When the cost of the imported article is 3.94, currency, in bond and at the wharf, while the best known brand made here is only 3.75, in kegs, free on board or in the jobber's store in this City, how can he "believe that the saleratus will be sold two cents or a cent and a half at least per pound cheaper when the duty is off than with it on," and sustain his position that "in putting this article on the free list consumers will undoubtedly be benefited one and a half cents, gold, per pound, or in my opinion two cents, currency, before it reaches them," unless he expects the English manufacturer will "benevolently" put down the "cost abroad" a little more than one and one-half cents per pound—say enough to make the price here 2.25, currency, instead of 3.94 present price as above; and that too, just when, to supply the demand for one year, they would have to send to this country over *forty millions* pounds, instead of "7,000,000 pounds," which he states came here last year!

We have promised to be brief, and knowing that your space is valuable, we will not ask your further indulgence at this time, and as we think that the soda question has been thoroughly ventilated, we hope we have come to the "finality" of this controversy, and "believing that the United States should ever seek to raise as large a revenue as possible on things that can, and do, easily bear the burden, and especially on those like tea, coffee, and soda and soda ash, saleratus and bicarbonate of soda, where the tax really falls on the producer or manufacturer of the imported article, and not on the consumer here." We desire to see the tariff left just as it now is, for the sake of the revenue accruing to the United States, and also, sincerely and sincerely

PRO BONO PUBLICO.

NEW-YORK, Saturday, Feb. 5, 1876.

FREE READING-ROOMS.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

Your article of this morning on the subject of free reading-rooms does not fully set forth the proposed plan of organization. The bill referred to authorizes the establishment of a free reading-room in one of the school buildings in each ward, under the supervision of the Board of Education, at a cost not to exceed two thousand dollars for each reading-room—school teachers to act as superintendents, with such additional compensation to them and to janitors as the Board of Education may deem just. The rooms to be opened and closed for the purpose indicated in such manner and at such hours as shall not interfere with the use of the building for school purposes; and the bill only designs to provide resorts for that portion of the day when the rank and file of our army of labor is unemployed, which is in the evening.

Our school system now costs annually between three and four million dollars, while the value of the public school property mounts up to millions more. If with the additional outlay of $42,000 per annum this immense property and costly machinery can be made useful in the way of evening schools of manners, morals, habits, and opinions—for this is in effect what reading-rooms would be—this property would be very much enhanced to us, and would conduce more to the peace, order, and prosperity of the City and its people than it does now.

We have still to learn that education is not complete at the age of fifteen or seventeen years, when the child withdraws from the public school, and that the State owes a duty and will find best compensation in providing its adults with healthful intellectual resorts—let me say moral parks, or mental baths, where the mind, stale with the drudgeries of business, may recuperate itself, as the body does in the parks and baths which the City has munificently provided for the physical restoration of our citizens.

The provision of such establishments, these supplemental appliances of our educational system, is in every view so important that it rises far above the sphere of charitable creation, and presents itself as a measure of State policy and State administration, to conduct which individual effort is entirely inadequate.

The evil influences to which our population is subjected are most active in the evening after school hours. The bill proposes, at a comparatively small cost, to employ a costly machinery not in use at those hours for the purpose of counteracting these evil influences. It promises no jobbery, no political appointments, no popular agitation. The whole plan, by direction of the State, can be put in instantaneous operation without jar to the Municipal routine, and will work so promptly and effectually to the cure of many of our popular

WASHINGTON SOCIAL LIFE.

THE WEEKLY CURRENT OF EVENTS.

THE RECEPTION AT THE BRITISH LEGATION —NEW-YORK REPRESENTATIVES ENTERTAINING—CONGRESSIONAL COSTUMES—STORY TELLERS—FEMALE LOBBYISTS—FOR CHARITY'S SAKE.

From an Occasional Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Feb. 5, 1876.

The "Winter of our discontent" is here at last, and we renew our allegiance to the marmots, as a climatic soothsayer superior to Old Probabilities. On Candlemas Day he came forth from his hibernation and sat erect with uplifted paws, "waiting for the verdict." Alas, the sun not only cast his shadow upon the frozen ground, sentencing him to three months more of subterraneous imprisonment, but before he could regain his hole a cold, sweeping wind which poured through the notch made by the Potomac in the Alleghanies almost blew his tail off. Since then we have had Winter weather in earnest, to the delight of those young snobs who for economy's sake had invested in Ulster overcoats, but who had been ashamed to wear them in the warm days which others have enjoyed. Yesterday and to-day there has been tolerable sleighing, and of course it has been improved by every one who owned or who could hire a sleigh, or the semblance thereof.

The reception at the British Legation on Thursday evening was the social event of the week now drawing to a close. There have been several dinner-parties and receptions of the diplomatic corps there, but for the first time the portals of the spacious and elegant residence of the diplomatic representative of Great Britain were thrown open to those who had the good fortune to be on Lady Thornton's visiting list.

Entering the gateway, carriages set down the guests beneath a spacious portico, on the front of which are "the Lion and the Unicorn, a-fighting for the Crown." Entering the spacious hall, it appeared like fairy-land, so brilliant was the illumination, and so bright were the exotics on every hand. The grand staircase, which is in front of the hall door, was bordered from the bottom to the top with a profusion of flowers, and on the first landing, as it looking down on the gay scene, was a full-length portrait of Queen Victoria.

The library and the diplomatic office, on the first floor, were used as dressing-rooms. Sir Edward and Lady Thornton received their guests in the first drawing-room at the right of the main entrance, and she wore a dress of rose-colored silk, which was much admired by the ladies. Beyond this drawing-room was another, and beyond that the largest ball-room in Washington, and the three were filled with the *élite* of metropolitan society. The ladies of the diplomatic corps wore their freshest toilettes, conspicuous among which were the pale pink silk of Mme. Hoyos, with its diamond aigrettes and other ornaments; the white silk of Mme. de Hegermann, embroidered in white, and trimmed with white lace; and the exquisite blue dress of Mme. Mantilla, trimmed with silver flowers, and brilliant with diamonds. Other ladies also attracted attention by the elegance of their dresses, especially Mrs. Budd, Mrs. Elijah Ward, Mrs. Wilkins, and Miss Scott, of New-York.

At 11 o'clock Sir Edward Thornton handed Mrs. Fish into supper, followed by the gay throng, who enjoyed the feast provided. The supper table was lighted with wax candles in silver candelabra, and there was an abundance of good cheer provided, including terrapins, patés, salads, &c., with no lack of champagne, claret, and port. It was, as a whole, the finest entertainment ever given in Washington, and it will long be remembered by all who enjoyed it.

Among the other entertainments of the week have been those of Hon. Elijah Ward on Tuesday night and Hon. Fernando Wood on Thursday night, each of which was attended by the Congressional element of society. Mrs. Wood is not here this Winter, and Miss Wood receives in her place. Then there was the "house-warming" of ex-Gov. Shepherd, where the profusely gilded and highly-decorated saloons were filled by those who have of late amassed fortunes here, including several members of Congress.

Dinner-parties have been abundant, and if the fourth is the highway to the heart, a number of prominent lobby schemes must have a good place in the hearts of some of the most stern Democrats. A wily politician, by "tipping" a waiter at the restaurant where nearly all of these "feeds" are given, is making a list of those who accept the hospitalities of avowed lobbyists, which he proposes to compare, later in the season, with their votes on the Southern Pacific Railroad, the refunding of the cotton tax, the improvement of the Mississippi levees, and other similar schemes. A publication of these statistics may make it disreputable hereafter for an honorable member of Congress to accept the hospitalities of an avowed lobbyist at the Widow Welcher's.

Official dinners here are about the same, either at the White House, at a restaurant, or in a private family, the only difference being in the beverages. The edibles are all served in courses, and handed around by servants after having been cut up. In the olden time meats and fowl were placed upon the table, and the guests had to work their passage. It was among the accomplishments of a gentleman in those days, when placed before a joint of meat or a canvas-back duck, to be able to

"——carve it like a dish fit for the gods,
Not how it like a carcase for the hounds."

Some of the members from the rural districts, however, who were as uninitiated in the mysteries of the blade as was the executioner of the Duke of Monmouth, used often to make sad work, spattering the gravy far and wide. Now, they have only to help themselves, and that often is a troublesome task to them, while their speculations as to what they are about to eat are amusing and verdant. The wines all appear alike to these Solons, who toss off Chateau d'Yquem and choice Burgundy with a dissatisfied air, and evidently long for a glass of "old Bourbon," or some "peach and honey."

The blue dress coat and bright buttons which the venerable Luke Poland has worn in the House during several past sessions, is now missed. But the undertaker-like black broadcloth so universally worn is varied by the full suit of blue Kentucky jeans, which is worn by old Mr. Williams, of the Second District of Indiana. He has been said to resemble Abraham Lincoln, with a head covered with straight, coarse hair; sad, gray eyes, deep in their sockets; high cheek bones, and a mouth which seems ever ready to make some quaint comment. He was beaten by Oliver P. Morton for the United States Senate in 1873, but in 1874 beat his Republican competitor for Congress nearly two to one. When he goes into the cloak-room for a little rest, a crowd always gathers around him, expecting to hear some humorous remark or good story.

Among the other good story-tellers in the present House no one can excel Mr. Thompson, who beat Gen. Butler in the Essex District of Massachusetts, and who has just enough of an impediment in his speech to spice his humorous utterances. Gov. Throckmorton, of Texas, is another good story-teller, and his budget is inexhaustible. Mr. Blaine is also gifted with a wonderful memory, and his stories can be listened to everywhere, which is not the case with many who "set the table in a roar." A report of the good things said daily in the cloak-rooms would eclipse the stupid *Congressional Record*.

The most agreeable class of people hereabouts are the female lobbyists, of whom there must be thirty or more. Some want patents extended; others have war claims, and not a few urge the enactment of private bills. A few of them are handsome, others possess literary pretensions, and nearly all pay great regard to the conventionalities of society. All have tact, some have practical common sense, and those who belong to the class against which Sam Weller warned his father to beware show an intimate acquaintance with the best way of managing the other sex. In no age or country, from the days of Louis XIV. and the Court of Spain, as described by Gil Blas, has female influence been more potent than it is here just now. And among the "rights" of their sex which they claim is that of taking a hand in the coming Presidential contest.

Another curious class of people here are the professional interviewers, who go about as did Asmodeus, uncovering the houses, and showing what is going on, what public men say, and even what they think. This propensity for personalities, and the desire of probing and prying into private life makes the public acquainted with many modifications of character which otherwise it might not observe, especially when the "interviews" are manufactured out of whole cloth.

Our Democratic friends, especially those in the House of Representatives, are ostensibly a "happy family," but they don't find that they are getting on very well. Some are defiant, others conciliatory, and there are a few who hope to find their way out of the wilderness in which they are wandering without either the sword of Theseus or the thread of Ariadne. Caucus is their philosopher's stone, but whenever they call a caucus there are half a dozen dinner parties the same evening, and who wishes to climb the Capitoline Hill, even in a street car, when he can put his legs beneath hospitable mahogany?

There is talk of a grand charity ball here, to replenish the empty coffers of some of our institutions which have been depleted by the many calls upon their bounty. Meanwhile rehearsals have been commenced for an amateur concert to be given for the benefit of the "Little Sisters of the Poor." Mrs. Secretary Robeson, Mme. Von Overbeck, Miss Willing, and Supervising Architect Potter are pledged to sing, but Mme. De Hergermann declines, to the regret of those who used to admire her vocal talents when she was Mrs. Moulton.

Next week the Misses Riggs will have the first of their "Mondays in February," which can but be attractive. There will be the usual receptions, and on Friday night Mrs. Ross Ray is to give a ball. The two following weeks will be gayer and gayer—*crescendo*—and then will come Lent.

LETTER FROM JEFFERSON DAVIS.

A REVIEW OF THE CHARGES OF CRUELTY MADE AGAINST HIM—HIS PRETENSE OF KINDNESS TOWARD PRISONERS OF WAR.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—Jefferson Davis has written the following letter to Judge Lyons, of Richmond, Va.:

NEW-ORLEANS, Jan. 27, 1876.

Hon. James Lyons:

MY DEAR SIR: Your very kind letter of the 14th inst. was forwarded from Memphis and has been received at this place. I have been so long the object of malignant slander and the subject of unscrupulous falsehood by partisans of the class of Mr. Blaine that, though I cannot say it has become to me a matter of indifference, it has ceased to excite my surprise, even in this instance, when it reaches the extremity of accusing me of cruelty to prisoners. What matters it to one whose object is personal and party advantage that the records, both Federal and Confederate, disprove the charge; that the country is full of witnesses who bear oral testimony against it, and that the effort to revive the bitter animosities of the war obstructs the progress toward the reconciliation of the sections. It is enough for him if his self-seeking purpose be promoted. It would, however, seem probable that such expectations must be disappointed, for only those who are willfully blind can fail to see in the circumstances of the case the fallacy of Mr. Blaine's statements. The published fact of an attempt to suborn Wirz when under sentence of death, by promising him a pardon if he would criminate me in regard to Andersonville prisoners, is conclusive as to the wish of the Government to make such a charge against me; and the failure to do so shows that nothing could be found to sustain it. May we not say the evidence of my innocence was such that Hoit and Conover, with their trained band of suborned witnesses, dared not make against me this charge, the same which Wirz for his life would not make, but which Blaine, for the Presidential nomination, has made. Now let us review the leading facts of the case. The report of the Confederate Commissioner for the Exchange of Prisoners shows how persistent and liberal were our efforts to secure the relief of captives. Failing in those attempts, I instructed Gen. R. E. Lee to go, under a flag of truce, and seek an interview with Gen. Grant, to represent to him the suffering and death of Federal prisoners held by us; to explain the causes, which were beyond our control; and to urge, in the name of humanity, the observance of the cartel for the exchange of prisoners. To this, as to all previous appeals, a deaf ear was turned. I will not attempt from memory to write the report made to me of the incidents of this mission. Lee no longer lives to defend the cause and country he loved so well and served so efficiently, but Gen. Grant cannot fail to remember so extraordinary a visit, and his objections to executing the cartel are well known to the public. But whoever else may choose to forget my efforts in this regard, the prisoners at Andersonville and the delegates I permitted them to send to President Lincoln to plead for the resumption of exchange of prisoners, cannot fail to remember how willing I was to restore them to their homes and to the comforts of which they were in need, provided the imprisoned soldiers of the Confederacy should be in like manner released and returned to us. This foul accusation, though directed specially against me, was no doubt intended for and naturally must be the arraignment of the South, by whose authority and in whose behalf my deeds were done. It may be presumed that the feelings and the habits of the Southern soldiers were understood by me, and in that connection any fair mind would perceive in my congratulatory orders to the Army, after a victory, in which the troops were most commended for their tenderness and generosity to the wounded and other captives, as well the instincts of the person who issued the order as the knightly temper of the soldiers to whom it was addressed. It is admitted that the prisoners in our hands were not as well provided for as we wished, but it is claimed we did as well for them as we could. Can the other side say as much? To the bold allegations of ill-treatment of prisoners by our side and humane treatment and adequate supplies by our opponents, it is only necessary to say that it appears from the reports of the United States War Department that though we had 60,000 more Federal prisoners than they had of Confederates, 6,000 more of Confederates died in Northern prisons. The want and suffering of men in Northern prisons caused me to ask for permission to send out cotton and buy supplies for them. The request was granted, but only on condition that the cotton should be sent to New-York and the supplies be bought there. Gen. Beale, now of St. Louis, was authorized to purchase and distribute the needful supplies. Our sympathy rose with the occasion, and responded to its demands, not waiting for ten years, then to vaunt itself when it could serve no good purpose to the sufferers, under the mellowing influence of time and occasional demonstrations at the North of a desire for the restoration of peace and good will. The Southern people have forgotten much, have forgiven much of the wrongs they bore. If it be less so among their invaders it is but another example of the rule that the wrong-doer is less able to forgive than he who has suffered causeless wrong. It is not, however, generally among those who braved the hazards of battle that unrelenting vindictiveness is to be found; they are brave and generous and gentle. It is the skulkers of the fight, the Blaines, who display their flag on an untented field. They made no sacrifice to prevent the separation of the States. Why should they be expected to promote by the confidence and good will essential to their union? When closely confined at Fortress Monroe, I was solicited to add my name to those of many esteemed gentlemen who had signed a petition for my pardon, and an assurance was given that on my doing so the President would order my liberation. Relying on the justice of our cause and the rectitude of my own conduct, I declined to sign the petition and remained subject to the inexcusable privations and tortures which Dr. Craven has but faintly described. When, after two years of close confinement, I was admitted to bail, on condition as I entered I appeared for trial under the indictment found against me, but in which Mr. Blaine's fictions do not appear. The indictment was finally quashed on no application of mine, nor have I ever evaded or avoided a trial upon any charge the General Government might choose to bring against me, and have no view of the future which makes it desirable to me to be included in an Amnesty bill. Viewed in the abstract or as a general question, I would be glad to see the repeal of all laws inflicting the penalty of political disabilities on classes of the people, that it might, as prescribed by the Constitution, be left to the courts to hear and decide causes, and to affix penalties according to pre-existing legislation. The discrimination made against our people is unjust and impolitic. If the fact be equality and the purpose be fraternity among the citizens of the United States, conviction and sentence without a hearing, without jurisdiction, and affixing penalties by *ex post facto* legislation, are part of the proceedings which had its appropriate end in the assumption by Congress of the executive functions of granting pardons. To remove political disabilities which there was not legal power to impose was not an act of so much grace as to form a plausible pretext for the reckless diatribe of Mr. Blaine. The papers preserved by Dr. Stevenson happily furnish full proof of the causes of disease and death at Andersonville. They are now, I believe, in Richmond, and it is to be hoped their publication will not be much longer delayed. I have no taste for recrimination, though the lies and recitals made by our soldiers returned from Northern prisons can never be forgotten, and you will, remember the excitement they produced and the censorious publications which were uttered against me, because I would not visit on the helpless prisoners in our hands such barbarities as, according to reports, had been inflicted upon our men. Imprisonment is a hard lot at the best, and prisoners are prone to exaggerate their sufferings, and such was probably the case on both sides; but we did not seek by reports of committees, with photographic illustrations, to influence the passions of our people. How was it with our enemy? Let one example suffice. You may remember a published report of a committee of the United States Congress, which was sent to Annapolis to visit some exchanged prisoners, and which had offered to it the photographs of some emaciated subjects, which were offered as samples of prisoners returned from the South. When a copy of that report was received I sent it to Col. Ould, Commissioner for the Exchange of Prisoners, and learned, as I anticipated, that the photographs, as far as they could be identified, had been taken from men who were in our hospitals when they were liberated for exchange, and whom the hospital surgeon reported as convalescent, but too weak to be removed with safety to themselves. The anxiety of the prisoners to be sent to their homes had prevailed over the objections of the surgeon. But this is not all; for I have recently learned from a priest who was then at Annapolis that the most wretched looking of these photographs was taken from a man who had never been a prisoner, but who had been left on the "sick list" at Annapolis when the command to which he was attached had passed that place on its southward march. Whatever may be said in extenuation of such imposture because of the exigencies of war, there can be no such excuse now for the attempt of Mr. Blaine, by gross misrepresentation and slanderous accusation, to revive the worst passions of the war, and it is to be hoped that, much as the event is to be regretted, it will have the good effect of evoking truthful statements in regard to this little-understood subject from men who would have preferred to leave their sorrowful story untold if the subject could have been allowed peacefully to sink into oblivion. Mutual respect is needful, for the common interest is essential to a friendly union, and when slander is promulgated from high places, the public welfare demands that truth should strip falsehood of its power for evil. I am respectfully and truly your friend,

(Signed,) JEFFERSON DAVIS.

AMUSEMENTS.

BRIEF MENTION.

"John Garth" will be reproduced to-night at Wallack's Theatre.

"Jane Eyre" will be acted this evening at the Brooklyn Theatre.

Mme. Titiens sings in "Norma" at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, this evening.

Mr. Hernandez Foster appears in "Robinson Crusoe" at Wood's Museum, this evening.

The successful burlesque on "Led Astray" will this evening be revived at the Eagle Theatre.

The California Minstrels enter upon a series of performances at the Twenty-third Street Opera-house, to-night.

The programme of the Thirty-fourth Street Theatre includes to-night the performances of the "Wild Canut Dancers."

POLITICAL NOTES.

Knoxville, Tenn., is to have another Democratic daily newspaper.

The Vermont Republican State Convention is to be held in Burlington March 29.

The Wilmington (Del.) *Republican* says that numerous signatures are being obtained in that city to a petition for woman suffrage.

Secretary Bristow is the Cincinnati *Commercial's* favorite for President. It has been told by somebody that he could carry Kentucky.

The Dayton *Herald* (Democratic) believes that Allen is the only candidate the Democracy of Ohio can unite upon for President, excepting Pendleton.

The Binghamton *Republican* reports that the Democratic head-quarters in that city is in charge of expert clerks, whose business it is to provide drinks for all comers.

With entire safety Parson Brownlow predicts that the Democrats in their National Convention will adopt a platform which will be all things to all men, and can be construed by the politicians so as to meet the views of any locality.

The Columbus correspondent of the Cincinnati *Enquirer* has inquired of fifty-five Democrats in the Legislature of Ohio, and finds that a majority of them favor Mr. Pendleton for President and desire an early State Convention.

A citizen of Boston has made affidavit that he paid George A. Shaw, a member of the City Council last year, $300 for his vote and influence in favor of the Indra Wharf property for a vegetable market, as against the Mercantile Wharf Company's property.

The Indianapolis *Journal* thus puts it: "Leading politicians in Congressman Kelley's district are getting up a convertible plan by which they propose to exchange him for another man next Fall. He declares that he will neither be exchanged nor retired."

Among the candidates for the Republican nomination for Governor of Illinois are named Gov. Beveridge, ex-Speaker Shelby M. Cullom, Congressman Fort, Hon. E. B. Washburne, Gen. J. B. Hawley, State Treasurer Ridgway, and Congressman C. B. Farwell.

The correspondent of the St. Paul *Pioneer-Press* has canvassed the Republican portion of the Minnesota Legislature, and finds that fifty-eight favor Blaine for President, twelve Washburne, five Bristow, four Morton, five Grant, two Hayes, and several others one each, the total standing Blaine forty-eight, against thirty-four for all others. All the Federal officers seen and all the State officers but three were for Blaine.

First Assistant Postmaster General Marshall has written to Kansas that it would be against the rules to give a copy of the report of Special Agent Huntington of the recent investigation of charges made against Col. D. R. Anthony, but that he is free to say that the report completely exonerates Col. Anthony from all the charges and complaints made against him, and that his office is admirably conducted. Mr. Huntington says: "He keeps his office in perfect order, his books are perfect in system, and his accounts will show at a glance that Col. Anthony knows how to perform the duties of a first-class Postmaster."

LARGE FIRE IN THE BOWERY.

LOSS $250,000—DESTRUCTION OF LOOKING-GLASS AND FURNITURE FACTORIES.

Shortly after 11 o'clock last night Officer Lade, of the Fourteenth Precinct, discovered flames issuing from the windows of the upper floor of the five-story building No. 82 Bowery, occupied by W. J. Graham, looking-glass manufacturer. He at once gave an alarm, which was quickly responded to by the firemen, but owing to the quantity of combustible material in the building, and its peculiar construction, the flames spread through the entire building in an incredibly short space of time and assumed such alarming proportions that second and third alarms were speedily sounded, and all the available force of the Fire Department called into requisition. The reserve of the Sixth and Tenth Precinct Police, in addition to that of the Fourteenth Precinct under Capt. Allaire, preserved order. The fire spread into the adjoining building, No. 84, occupied by Frank Rhoner & Co., manufacturers of fancy furniture. Both buildings are of precisely similar construction, and have a frontage of seventy-five feet, and run back toward Elizabeth street about the same distance. It soon became evident to Chief Engineer Bates that the two buildings could not be saved, and that the efforts of the firemen could best be directed toward saving the surrounding property. On the north side of the burning buildings Nos. 86, 86½, and 88, are small two-story houses, used as stores and residences. The occupants of these were taken out by the firemen. Meantime the fire had completely gutted the buildings Nos. 82 and 84. Soon afterward the north wall cracked and fell, crushing in the roofs of Nos. 86 and 86½ Bowery, and injuring the outhouses of some buildings in Hester street. The roof soon fell in, and the firemen, having a clear field for work, succeeded in extinguishing the flames. In No. 80 Bowery, Dann & Farley, clothiers, on the first floor, lost $4,000 on stock by water. Barnitz, Delhi & Co., occupying the remainder of the house as a manufactory of parlor furniture, had their stock damaged $15,000. In No. 82, Mr. Graham, looking-glass maker, lost on stock $45,000. Frank Rhoner & Co., occupying No. 84, lost $75,000 on stock and machinery. William Weed, shoemaker, occupying No. 86, lost $2,000 on stock, and M. Binn, hosier, occupying No. 86½, lost $1,000 on stock. Messrs. Palmer & Embry, furniture makers, in Elizabeth street, lost $1,500 on stock by water. The houses Nos. 86 and 86½ Bowery, crushed by the falling of the side wall, were damaged $1,200. The buildings Nos. 82 and 84 were completely gutted, and the loss on them will reach $85,000. They stood on the site of the New Bowery Theatre, built by James W. Lingard and George L. Fox, which was burned in 1866. Owing to the absence of the owners no insurance could be ascertained.

OTHER FIRES.

Yesterday morning a fire was discovered on the fifth floor of the five-story brick building No. 99 Water street. R. S. Place, screw-bolt manufacturer, occupying the first, second, and third floors, had his stock damaged $6,000. H. W. Ericks, cigar-box maker on the fourth floor, had his stock and machinery damaged $6,000; insured in the Franklin Company for $3,000. The building, owned by R. S. Place, was damaged $4,000; insured.

A dispatch from Rimouski, Quebec, says a fire last night destroyed the residence and store of J. C. Nolan and an adjoining building, owned by the late Edward O'Doherty. The total loss is $20,000.

The two-story dwelling of Gerard Kappinhaur, No. 202 Allen street, was damaged $150 by fire yesterday evening.

The residence of Henry D. Mundorf, No. 116 Spring street, was damaged $400 by fire last evening; insured.

Daniel Moore's frame shanty in Seventieth street, near Eighth avenue, was damaged $50 by fire yesterday.

THE CINCINNATI DISASTER.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 6.—Information to-night from those who were injured at Robinson's Opera-house yesterday is favorable. Mr. Henry Kessler, reported dead, is still living and will recover. Considerable prominence is given to a report that the alarm was started by pickpockets, who intended to profit by the stampede, but this story is generally discredited.

THE STRATFORD LIGHT-SHIP.

NEW-HAVEN, Feb. 6.—The missing Stratford light-ship has been found by a revenue cutter near Faulkner's Island, and towed back.

GEN. SHERMAN AT KENESAW

THE ASSAULT JUSTIFIABLE.

CONDITION OF THE TWO ARMIES AT THE TIME THE ASSAULT WAS MADE—SHERMAN'S CONSULTATIONS WITH THOMAS AND M'PHERSON—THE LOSS OF LIFE NOT "NEEDLESS" OR "INEXCUSABLE."

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

The controversy over Gen. Sherman's *Memoirs* thus far has demonstrated at least one important fact. Gen. Sherman's critics, when forced to defend their position, cannot, and do not even attempt to, stand by the text and meaning of their criticisms. Gen. Boynton, placed upon the "defensive," concludes his rejoinders to my letters in THE TIMES with the denial of any intention to criticise Sherman as a General, and acknowledges that "nothing could have been more absurd than for any officer of moderate rank to have attempted thus to arraign Gen. Sherman." This certainly is a wonderful acknowledgment for Gen. Boynton to make, in view of the severe criticisms he has pronounced upon Sherman as a General, and that stand forth upon every page of his book to confound him now. Not only has he been compelled to explain, but Gen. Wilson also, in self-defense, has at last written a letter to THE NEW-YORK TIMES, in which he attempts to explain away the evil effects of his unjust criticisms. When a writer, in order to evade the consequences of his own writings, is forced, over his own signature, to make a statement milder in language and altogether different in meaning from that he has already made, and to which he did not think it best to subscribe his name, it is a confession, in my opinion, that he acknowledges his accusations were unjust, his criticisms unwarranted; and so the public will construe it. When I have accomplished the task I have undertaken, I will answer this letter of Gen. Wilson as well as those of Gen. Boynton, and will make good every statement I have made in this controversy, including my account of McPherson's advance on Resaca. Having made this brief statement, I will now proceed to speak of Sherman at Kenesaw.

We are informed by Gen. Boynton that "there was no military movement made by Gen. Sherman, from the time he began the Atlanta campaign till the end of the war, which brought such severe criticism on him from the armies which he commanded as the assault upon Kenesaw Mountain." This might be true, and yet Gen. Sherman would have escaped with but little criticism, for, with this single exception, I never heard an officer or soldier censure Gen. Sherman for any military movement he made or ordered—save in the case of Gen. Hooker, already mentioned; certainly none ever charged him with "inexcusable slaughter" of his men, or thought of sneering at his published and most satisfactory reasons for the attack on Kenesaw.

Gen. Boynton, however, devotes an entire chapter in his book to prove that Gen. Sherman on this occasion was guilty of a "needless" and "inexcusable slaughter"—a rather severe arraignment for "an officer of moderate rank" to bring against so distinguished a soldier as Gen. Sherman. Gen. Boynton asserts that the principal, if not the only, reason offered by Gen. Sherman for this "needless attack," was "to teach his soldiers that on occasions he would assault, and boldly." Had this been the only reason for storming Kenesaw, Gen. Sherman would have indeed been censurable; but this was not the only reason, nor the principal one, but on the contrary, the most insignificant of all, and only incidentally given by Gen. Sherman in connection with other valid reasons that fully justified him in ordering the attack that was made. All who have read the history of the Atlanta campaign are familiar with Gen. Sherman's operations about Kenesaw; all know that an attack was made on Johnston's fortified lines, and that a bloody repulse was the result. Over two thousand men were killed and wounded. It is possible that, in view of this repulse and final failure to pierce the enemy's lines, it would have been better if the attack had not been made. But of this I am not so sure, for I know that this uncertainty obtains in the minds of the best military men of to-day. To understand why Gen. Sherman ordered this attack on Johnston in his well-chosen position, behind fortified lines—"a thing," as Gen. Sherman says in his *Memoirs*, "carefully avoided up to that time"—it is necessary to fully comprehend the situation and condition of both armies about Kenesaw. Gen. Sherman had driven Johnston from his strong position at Dalton, by a flank movement of McPherson through Snake Creek Gap. He had forced him from off the hills of Resaca, over the Oostenaula, back to Cassville, and, by superior strategy, had compelled him to abandon his intention to fight there. Johnston gave up his intrenchments at Cassville and crossed the Etowa; the mountains of Allatoona and the fortified camp at Dalton were each in turn defended and abandoned, till at last Gen. Johnston made, as he supposed, his final stand on Kenesaw. Sherman had steadily advanced, by a system of brilliant flank movements, feints, and attacks, nearly one hundred miles, over the best adapted country for defensive warfare in the world, and yet his enemy maintained an unbroken front—still stood between him and Atlanta, his great "objective." In spite of all his efforts, acknowledged to be unrivaled, Gen. Sherman had failed to bring Johnston to open battle or materially injure him. He had not yet struck him a single blow decisive of the campaign. This opportunity seemed now to offer itself. Johnston had evidently made a final stand on Kenesaw, willing to give us battle. His position was strong but dangerous for him, for only a few miles in his rear ran the Chattahoochie; once defeated, he could never reach the river and cross. The question now arose in Gen. Sherman's mind, "Shall I continue the old and tedious system of flank movements, and thus drive the enemy beyond the Chattahoochie, to some position equally strong, and then give him battle, with the river in my rear; or shall I boldly assault him now, break his lines, and envelop and crush his flanks in his retreat from the mountain to the river?" Gen. Sherman, after carefully considering these two plans, after freely consulting with Thomas, Schofield, and McPherson, decided to assault his enemy in the position where he now stood on Kenesaw. He knew that sooner or later a bloody battle must be fought, and although this was the most formidable position yet taken by the enemy, if his lines could once be broken the results to him would be all the more disastrous. The attack was made, the results are known. Thomas failed to pierce the enemy's centre, yet how near he came to achieving a grand success! We find from his dispatch to Sherman just after the battle that it was only by the merest chance that the attack failed—that the young and gallant Harker and the brave McCook actually reached the enemy's lines, and were shot down upon his works. Here I give Thomas' exact words: "And that all say that had they not been wounded we would have driven the enemy from his works." On how slight a circumstance rests the fate of battles! Gen. Sherman states in his dispatch to Halleck on July 9 that the assault was no mistake, and adds: "Had the assault been made with one-fourth more vigor, mathematically, I would have put the head of Gen. Thomas' whole army right through Johnston's deployed line, on the best ground for 'go-ahead,' while my whole forces were well in hand on roads converging to my then object—Marietta." Had he succeeded, as he had every reason to believe he would, Johnston's army would have been ruined beyond hope of recovery. We lost over 2,000 men killed and wounded—not to "teach the soldiers a lesson," as Boynton asserts, nor to "convince the enemy that on occasions we would attack fortified lines," but in the belief that Johnston's lines would be broken and the campaign ended then and there. Gen. Boynton states that Gen. Sherman was anxious to renew the attack, and sent orders to Gen. Thomas to that effect. Gen. Sherman may have desired to try again, to make one more effort to break the centre. He would have been perfectly justifiable, in view of the fact that in the first assault our men had crowned the enemy's works, and now, according to Gen. Thomas' report, were able to hold their ground, "*within sixty yards of the enemy's intrenchments.*" Our casualties had been nothing in comparison to similar assaults in the East, and small in proportion to the numbers attacking. I will allow no man to go further than myself in just praise of Gen. Thomas, yet I submit to every candid mind if, under the circumstances, the loss of 2,000 men justified him in sending the dispatch to Sherman that "one or two more such assaults would use up this army." The roads were almost impassable; it had been raining incessantly for days; how was Gen. Sherman to move his artillery and trains over miry roads, almost impassable, in order to turn the enemy's position, with no provisions in all that country; and let it be remembered that all his supplies must come over a single line of railroad, that, at best, could only bring what was absolutely needed from day to day; this road might be broken by the enemy at any moment, his supplies fail, and ruin or disaster follow. To take these risks, to abandon the attack now with Thomas' army holding its ground within *sixty yards* of the enemy's works, and when one more vigorous effort might carry all before it, seemed, no doubt, to Gen. Sherman as the height of folly. Gen. Boynton is no doubt correct. Sherman did desire to renew the attack, but he sent no orders to that effect. He sent encouraging word to Thomas, from McPherson and Schofield; called his attention to "Leggett's guns well behind the mountain;" directed Thomas "to study well the position," and if it be possible to break the line, to do it—it is easier now than it will be hereafter." But he left it all to the judgment of Gen. Thomas. In another dispatch Gen. Thomas says: "Do *you* think you can carry any of the enemy's lines to-day? I will order the assault if *you think you can succeed.*" In each case submitting to the judgment of Gen. Thomas, who was on the ground, and could best decide. At 6 P. M. of the day of the assault Gen. Thomas sent the following dispatch to Gen. Sherman:

"The assault of the enemy's works in my front was well arranged, and the officers and men went to their work with the greatest coolness and gallantry. The failure to carry them is due only to the strength of the works and to the fact that they were well manned, thereby enabling the enemy to hold them securely against the assault. * * * Both Gen. Harker and Col. McCook were *wounded on the enemy's breastworks*, and all say that had they not been wounded, we would have driven the enemy from his works. Both Gens. Howard and Palmer think that they can find favorable positions on their lines for placing batteries for enfilading the enemy's works. We took between ninety and one hundred prisoners."

To this report of Gen. Thomas, which fully shows how near he came to accomplishing all for which the assault was made, Gen. Sherman replied as follows:

"Let your troops fortify as close up to the enemy as possible. Get good positions for artillery, and group your command as conveniently as you can by corps and divisions, keeping reserves. * * * I regret beyond measure the loss of two such young and dashing officers as Harker and Dan. McCook. Had we broken the line to-day, it would have been most decisive; but as it is, our loss is small compared with some of those in the East. It should not in the least discourage us. At times assaults are necessary and inevitable. At Arkansas Post we succeeded; at Vicksburg we failed. I do not think our loss to-day greater than Johnston's was when he attacked Hooker and Schofield on the first day we occupied our present ground."

"The excuses," says Gen. Boynton in his chapter of censure, criticism, and ridicule of Sherman at Kenesaw, "made to Thomas for the assault in the last part of the above dispatch are significant." They were not excuses. Gen. Sherman never made an excuse in his life to any one. None were needed. That dispatch contains but three things—instructions, regrets, and words of encouragement. "Let your troops fortify—get good positions for artillery—group your command." "I regret beyond measure the loss of two such young and dashing officers as Harker and Dan. McCook." "Had we broken the line to-day it would have been most decisive. Assaults are sometimes necessary and inevitable. It should not in the least discourage us."

"The excuses made to Gen. Thomas for the assault, are significant"—of what, pray? Gen. Boynton does not tell us. On page 118 of his book, Gen. Boynton gives us some idea, however, of the significance of Sherman's assertion, that, "assaults are sometimes necessary;" and that they sometimes succeed, and when they do, are almost always decisive of the fortunes of the day. In speaking of the attack made upon the enemy's fortified lines at Smyrna Camp-ground, only a few days after the repulse at Kenesaw, and that, too, upon a position well chosen, and most formidable, Gen. Boynton says:

"It was one of the most gallant and successful fights of the Atlanta campaign, and one of the very few instances where heavy intrenchments were carried by direct assault. * * * They were stormed—Gen. Noyes, of Ohio, having prominent command in the charging column—and carried. As a consequence, the rebels let go the strong line of Smyrna Camp-ground and retreated."

In view of the "*needless*" and "*inexcusable slaughter*" on Kenesaw, the above quotation from Gen. Boynton's book is indeed very significant. Gen. Sherman was just as responsible for the assault on Smyrna Camp-ground as he was for the attack on Kenesaw. He gave the order to McPherson to attack—the Sixteenth Corps. Gen. Dodge, composed the storming column—the works were carried, and "*as a consequence the enemy let go his strong line of Smyrna Camp-ground and retreated.*" Had this assault failed, I suppose, in Gen. Boynton's opinion, it would have been another blunder on the part of Gen. Sherman—another opportunity for him to criticise and sneer, another "needless" and "inexcusable slaughter." Some unaccountable fatality urges Gen. Boynton in every instance to furnish the only testimony needed to destroy his own criticisms and render them ridiculous. In this instance Gen. Boynton could not forego the pleasure to sneer at Gen. Sherman for having spoken of this attack as a "noisy but not desperate battle," and so betrayed himself. One thing more, and I have done with Kenesaw.

When Gen. Sherman finally became convinced that he could only force his enemy to let go of Kenesaw by a flank movement, he resolved to move his entire army to Fulton, about ten miles below Marietta, letting go of his railroad, and states "that Gen. Thomas as usual shook his head, deeming it risky to leave his railroad." In speaking of this contemplated movement on the part of Sherman, Gen. Boynton declares that this was a "slur upon Gen. Thomas;" that "Gen. Sherman communicated with Thomas upon this subject by telegraph and in cipher, and Gen. Thomas could not have shaken his head through that medium." Very true; but herein Gen. Boynton, in order to convict Gen. Sherman of injustice to Thomas, and of false representation, entirely overreaches himself. For once he failed to carefully state the record, or the willing clerks in the War Department failed to do it for him. It was on the 27th day of June that Gen. Sherman was using the telegraph between himself and Thomas in regard to this movement, and Gen. Sherman does not say that Thomas shook his head then or on that day, and opposed this contemplated movement. The actual movement did not take place till the night of July 2. Does Gen. Boynton pretend that from the 27th of June till the 2d of July, a space of five days, Gen. Sherman had no personal communication or conversation with Gen. Thomas, the next officer in command after himself, and the one upon whom he most relied, and with whom he always counseled? To think otherwise would be absurd.

There are other criticisms made by Gen. Boynton in regard to Kenesaw, but they are too insignificant to merit serious attention. To Gen. Sherman's clear statement and correct reasoning in regard to his assault on Kenesaw, Gen. Boynton devotes five pages of ridicule. Because Gen. Sherman declared that on the 25th of June Gen. Schofield had extended his right as far as possible, Gen. Boynton exclaims: "Notwithstanding it was so imprudent to stretch out any more, still Schofield, while the assault was in progress, moved off to the right, across Olley's Creek, while the cavalry extended his lines still further—to the Sweetwater." Does Gen. Boynton pretend to say that this was not the correct thing to do? And does he know why and in what force Schofield crossed Olley's Creek? I can tell him. Gen. Schofield threw a small brigade over Olley's Creek on the 26th, in order to make a bridge over which his troops might pass, and on the 27th, while the entire rebel Army was engaged in a desperate defense of his long battle line, Schofield threw his troops across and stood ready to strike the enemy in flank had he been driven from Kenesaw—and was not this good generalship? Does it argue, because Gen. Sherman did not think it prudent to extend further to the right, in the face of a watchful foe, he could not do so safely while the battle raged, and every rebel was desperately fighting to hold in check Thomas and McPherson, leaving Schofield free to strike? If not, will Gen. Boynton or some other officer of "moderate rank" explain? Finally, to sum up the criticisms on this battle, Gen. Boynton asserts that Thomas and Schofield were not in favor of an assault, and that Schofield "earnestly opposed it." But we have only his word for this; he offers no proof—not one word from either Thomas or Schofield. Where are his records to show that Gen. Sherman's statement, "we all agreed," is not correct? The War Department has been ransacked for evidence to break

COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS.

NEW-YORK, Saturday, Feb. 5, 1876.

The receipts of the principal kinds of Produce since our last have been as follows:

Ashes, pks.....	33	Rice, pks.....	58
Bees-wax, pk.....	1	Resin, bbls.....	1,346
Beans, bushs.....	50	Spirits Turp., bbls.....	394
Cotton, bales.....	990	Oil-cake, pks.....	3,499
Dried Fruit, pks.....	2	Beef, pks.....	369
Eggs, bbls.....	991	Pork, pks.....	1,572
Flour, bbls.....	15,190	Lard, pkgs.....	1,221
Wheat, bushels.....	19,340	Lard, kegs.....	59
Corn, bushels.....	20,970	Cut-meats, pks.....	1,144
Oats, bushels.....	19,900	Butter, pks.....	2,554
Barley, bushels.....	10,500	Cheese, pks.....	3,305
Malt, bushels.....	3,550	Sponge, bales.....	64
Peas, bushels.....	400	Starch, pks.....	1,196
Rye, bushels.....	3,000	Dead Hogs, No.....	543
Seed, bags.....	572	Tea, pks.....	247
Grass-seed, bags.....	289	Tallow, pks.....	2
Flax, bales.....	203	Tobacco, hhds.....	87
Hops, bales.....	705	Tobacco, pks.....	175
Hides, No.....	114	Whisky, bbls.....	223
Hides, bales.....	169	Wool, bales.....	99
Lead, pigs.....	300	Stearine, pks.....	62
Leather, sides.....	9,352		

ASHES—Have been quiet, but steady; quoted at $5 @$5 50 for Pots and $7 @$8 for Pearls ₱ 100 lb.

BEES-WAX—Inactive at 31c.@33c. for Yellow, the latter for choice.

CANDLES—Have been in limited request generally, with Adamantine at 12½c.@13c.; Paraffine, 20c.@21c.; Sperm, plain, 20c.; Sperm, patent, 33c.; Stearic, 27c.@28c. ₱ lb.

COAL—Has been in rather more demand, with Liverpool House Canal quoted at $7 @$8; Liverpool Gas Cannel, $12; Newcastle Gas, $6 @$7; Scotch Gas, $6 50@$7 25; Provincial Gas, $4 50@$5 25; American Gas, $6 25@$6 75; Cumberland Soft, $5 75@$6 25; American Cannel, $5 @$14, and Anthracite at $5 @$6 50 for Cheapest to Store.

COFFEE—Has been comparatively dull, within the previous range. Sales 194 bags Santos, by the Humboldt, and 2,000 bags Rio, by the Ennis, on private terms; and at Mobile, 6,700 bags Rio, by the Maggie Vale, on private terms.

COTTON—Has been quiet for early delivery at rather easier prices, though the official figures have not been altered.....Ordinary quoted at 9 9-16c.; Low Middling at 12 5-16c.@12 9-16c.; Middling at 13 1-16c.@13¼c. ₱ lb.....Reported net receipts officially for prompt delivery of 568 bales, (of which 475 were on last evening,) including 175 bales to shippers, 380 bales to spinners, and 8 bales to speculators.....Business for forward delivery has been moderate at rather easier prices.....Sales have been reported since our last of 18,900 bales, (of which 4,100 bales were on last evening, and 14,800 bales to-day,) with 600 bales on the call, on the basis of Middling, over the regular options closing at 12 29-32c.; March, 13¼c.; April, 13 11-32c.; May, 13 9-16c.; June, 13¾c.@13 25-32c.; July, 13 29-32c.@13 15-16c.; August, 14c.@14 1-32c., showing a decline of 3-32c.@5c. ₱ lb., closing quiet. The receipts at this port to-day were 990 bales, and at all the shipping ports were 18,774 bales, against 16,012 bales same day last week.....The week's exports hence have been 10,168 bales to Liverpool, 450 bales to Liverpool, 40 bales to Hamburg, 57 bales to Bremen, 286 bales to Rotterdam, and 177 bales to Antwerp.....The exports from all the ports since Sept. 1, 1875, have been ——bales, of which —— were bales to British ports, and —— bales to the Continent, against —— bales same time the previous year.

FLOUR AND MEAL—A livelier export movement has been reported in State and Western Flour at rather stronger prices, with the main call for regular shipping Extras, for the European markets, within the range of $4 90@$5 15; and for City Mill Flour, for the West Indies, at from $5 75@$6 05 ₱ bbl. Minnesota Extras have been met with a comparatively ready sale, especially Medium Straight Extras. Most other kinds quite moderately sought after, within our range.....Sales have been reported since our last of 18,200 bbls. of all grades, including those to arrive, as $3 75@$6 15, chiefly at $4 75@$5 75; very inferior to choice No. 2 Flour at $3 15@4 10, mainly at $3 50@$3 80; very poor to choice Superfine and Western at $4 25@$4 85, chiefly at $4 35@$4 50; inferior to choice Extra State, $4 80@$5 25, chiefly at $4 90@$5 15; choice to fancy do., $5 25@$5 75; City Mills Extras, $5@$6 50, mainly at $5 75@$6 05; poor to very choice shipping Extra Western do., $4 80@$5 15, chiefly at $4 90@$5 15, from dock and delivered; round-hoop Ohio at $4 80@$5 25, for small lots and lines, and trade and family Extras within the previous range. Rye Flour has been limited, with sales here 10,150 bbls. shipping stock, mainly City Mills and Western Extras, on the basis of our quotations, (of which were 6,300 bbls. City Mills,).....Southern Flour firm and in demand; sales 2,250 bbls.....Rye Flour quiet and steady on sales of 350 bbls., in lots, chiefly at $5 75@$5 87 for Superfine.....Corn-meal dull at unchanged rates; sales equal to 500 bbls.

GRAIN—A further rise of fully 2c.@3c. a bushel has been noted in the instance of Spring Wheat, which has been offered much less freely, and has been in active request, mostly for export. No. 2 Milwaukee Spring has been exceptionally scarce and held at extreme rates, checking sales to a large extent. Spring also in light supply and wanted, partly for milling. Winter Wheat held higher, but quiet and unsettled. Sales have been reported since our last of 188,000 bushels at $1 40 for very choice hard No. 1 Milwaukee Spring, (a small lot,) in store, with $1 37 freely bid, and $1 40 generally asked for strictly prime No. 1 Minnesota; $1 12, in part, for No. 3 Milwaukee Spring, afloat, (with $1 23 reported as the best actual bid on Change, and $1 23 subsequently, for No. 2 do., in store, with, however, $1 25 a bushel asked;) $1 08@$1 10 for No. 3 Chicago Spring, in store and afloat, closing at $1 09 in store; $1 08@$1 17 for ungraded Spring; $1 14@$1 14¾ for Mixed Milwaukee Spring, in store, closing at $1 14¾ as the basis of the latest sale; $1 26@$1 05 for rejected Spring, mostly at the latter rate; $1 47½ for White Michigan.....Corn has been comparatively scarce, and again quoted a shade higher, checking transactions, though a good demand has been noted, partly for export. Sales have been reported since our last of 50,000 bushels for early delivery, at 63¾c. for new Mixed Western, New-York inspection, afloat; 63c. (nominally) for new Low Mixed do.; 59c.@63c. for ungraded new Mixed Western; 59¾c.@57½c. for "no grade," New-York inspection, afloat; 62¾@63c. (reported for new Yellow Western, the latter an extreme; 61c. for ordinary New Yellow Southern; 60c.@62c. for new White Western, 63c. for good new White Southern, afloat; 61c. for new Yellow Western, delivered. A moderate demand has been noted for forward delivery at slightly improved prices.....Sales have been reported of 10,000 bushels new Mixed Western, New-York inspection, February delivery, on private terms, quoted at 63¾c. bid, and 63¾c. asked, ₱ bushel. Other options wholly nominal.....Rye, Peas, Malt, and Buckwheat very quiet without change of moment.....Of Barley, two cargoes of choice two-rowed State (Jefferson County) reported sold at 98c. ₱ bushel; market unaltered.....Oats have been quite active and quoted a shade higher, with sales reported of 73,000 bushels; 50¾c. for prime Mixed Milwaukee, (14,000 bushels,) afloat; 47½c. for No. 2 Chicago, in store; 46¼c.@48 48c. for poor to good Mixed Western, car lots; 48½c.@51c. for poor to about prime White Western, mainly at 50c.; 48c. for poor, in store, (6,700 bushels;) 48c.@50c. for Mixed State, in store and afloat; 48c.@52c. for White State and 48c. for No. 2 New-York, (6,000 bushels.) Hay, Straw, and Feed in light demand and rather weak in price.....Clover-seed about steady, with sales reported of 60 bags prime State at 14½c.; 150 bags prime do., to arrive, at 14¼c.; and, rumored, 150 bags very choice do., to arrive, at 14¾c. ₱ lb.....The week's export clearances hence, for European ports, have included 41,056 barrels Flour, 342,339 bushels Wheat, 221,892 bushels Corn, 57,400 bushels Peas, and 12,626 bushels Rye.

HIDES—Have been fairly active at generally firmer prices, with receipts here, since our last, 7,768 Hides; sales 62,815 Hides and 64 bales do., the latter including, according to Messrs. Pickard & Andresen, 2,480 Dry Buenos Ayres, 23¾ lb.; 2,945 Dry Buenos Ayres and Montevideos, 24 lb.; 2,490 Dry Cordovilla, 20 lb., on private terms; 12,310 Dry Montevideo, 20 lb., at 20½c., gold; 5,740 Dry Montevideo, to arrive, 20¾ to 21 lb., at 20½c., gold, 4 months, usual selection; 5,620 Dry California, 19 to 23 lb., 20½c., gold, 90 to 60 days, usual selection; 3,090 Dry Central American, 19 to 20 lb., part at 18c., gold, 60 days, selected; 3,920 Dry Mexican, 18 to 22 lb., 815 Dry Payta, 24 lb., and 1,000 Dry Maracaibo, 18 lb., on private terms; 3,115 Dry Texas, 22 to 23 lb., part at 21c., currency, 4 months, selected; 2,115 Dry Buenos Ayres, 16 to 18 lb., 2,800 Dry Texas Kips, 10 lb.; 1,600 Wet-salted Californias, 50 lb.; 3,400 Wet-salted Texas, Western, and Southern, 45 to 60 lb., and 1,700 Country Slaughter, 30 lb., 14 bales Calcutta Cow, 14 lb., and 50 bales Calcutta Buffalo, 34 lb., on private terms; and to-day 300 Dry Salted and 900 Dry-salted do. on private terms.....Stock in first hands here this morning, 85,000 Hides, and 1,195 bales do., against 155,800 Hides and 736 bales do. same time last year.

HONEY—Has been very quiet, since our last, yet quoted steady, with San Domingo, in bond, quoted at from 72½c.@75c., and Cuba at 80c., gold, ₱ gallon.

MOLASSES—Steady, but quiet; 300 bbls. New-Orleans reported sold in lots at 52c.@53c. for prime to very fancy.

NAILS—Have been in quite moderate request, on the basis of $2 87½@$3 for common fence and sheathing.

NAVAL STORES—Resin inactive, with Strained Resin quoted at $1 37½@$1 60, and common do. at $1 65@$1 80 ₱ bbl.....Tar and Pitch unchanged.....Spirits Turpentine dull at 36½c. for merchantable ₱ gallon. Sales, 100 bbls.

OIL-CAKE—Has been inactive, but quoted steady, with Western, in bags, quoted at $45@$45 50, currency; City quoted nominal. The week's exports hence have been 2,978 pks.

PETROLEUM—Crude very quiet; quoted at 8½c.@8¾c., in bulk, and at 11¾c. in shipping order for early delivery.....Refined, for early delivery, in light demand; quoted at the close at 14¼c.....Refined, in cases, 19½c.@20½c.; Naphtha, 9½c.@9¾c.....Refined Petroleum, at Philadelphia, nearly quiet for very quoted at the close at 14¼c.@14½c.....At Baltimore, for early delivery, 14¾c.@14½c.

PROVISIONS—Pork has been quite dull for early delivery, closing somewhat irregular.....Sales for early delivery have been reported of only small lots of new Western Mess at $21 50@$21 75; Western Prime Mess quoted at $20@$20 50; City do., $22; Extra Prime, nominally, $16 50 ₱ bbl., and for forward delivery, of Western Mess a limited movement has been reported, at an advance, closing lower and unsettled, with February options quoted at the close at $21 60@$21 70; March at $21 60@$21 75; April at $21 60@$21 90; May at $21 75@$22; June at $21 90@$22.....Sales since our last of 500 bbls. February at $21 60@$21 65.....Dressed Hogs have been more sought after and quoted firmer, with City quoted at 9¾c.@10¾c. for heavy to light, and Pigs at 10¾c. ₱ lb.....Western Hogs at $9 75@$9 87½.....Cut-meats in good demand at strong and buoyant prices. Sales reported of 20,000 lb Packed Bellies, at 11¾@12½c., the latter rate for very light; 15 bxs. Bellies at 12½c., and 300 tcs. Western Pickled Hams on private terms; quoted at 12c.@12½c. for medium averages; also sundry small lots of Cumberland, in stock, here, at full prices.....Bacon in active request, and, to a good part for the West Indies, at very firm rates.....City Long Clear quoted at the close at 12¼c.; Western Long Clear, 11¾c.; do. Short Clear, 12¼c.@12½c.....Sales have been reported of 625 bxs. City Long Clear, mainly at 12c. ₱ lb.....Western Steam Lard has been much less active, opening a shade stronger under favorable Western advices, but closing weaker.....Of Western Steam for early delivery here, sales have been reported of 450 tcs. prime at $12 87½, and 50 tcs. off grade at 13¼c.....And for forward delivery, the dealings have been comparatively moderate, chiefly outside of the sales.....Western Steam, February options, closed $12 87@12 95; March at $12 97½@13 02½; April, $13 12½@13 17½; May, $13 22½@$13 27½; June, $13 32½@13 42½.....Of Western Steam, sales have been made of 250 tcs., February, at $12 87½; 1,500 tcs. March at $13@13 02½; 1,000 tcs. April, at $13 12½@13 15.....City Steam and Kettle Lard has been in request at full prices; sales reported of 175 tcs. City Steam and Kettle at 12¾c.@12¾c.....Refined Lard has been in fair demand, and quoted for the Continent at 13c.@13¼c., and for the West Indies at 13¾c. ₱ lb.; sales reported of 300 tcs. for the West Indies at 12¾c.; and recently, 3,000 tcs., mostly for the Continent, (not previously reported,) on private terms.....Beef firm, with sales reported of 90 bbls. at former rates; 200 tcs. City Extra India Mess, and 100 tcs. Philadelphia Mess on private terms.....Butter, Cheese, and Eggs about as last quoted.....Tallow has been less sought after and quoted easier, with sales of 70,000 lb. fair to prime at 9c.@9¼c.....Stearine quiet, with choice Western, in tcs., quoted at 13¾c., and City, 13¼c. ₱ lb.....The exports hence for European ports have been 2,041 pks. Pork, 2,024 pks. Beef, 12,919 pks. Bacon, 8,859 pks. Lard, 27,121 pks. Cheese, and 25 pks. Butter; also, 1,291 hhds. Tallow.

RICE—Has been selling to a fair extent in a jobbing way at unchanged rates. We quote fair to choice Carolina at $7 @$7 50; Louisiana at $5 75@$6 75; Rangoon at $6 37½@$6 50, currency, and $2 50@$2 55, gold, in bond; Patna at $7 25@$7 50, currency, free, and $4@$4 25, gold, in bond ₱ 100 lb.

SUGARS—Raw quiet at 7¾c.@8c. for fair to good refining Cuba. Sales last evening, 175 hhds. Centrifugal at 8½c.; 300 hhds. refining Cuba at 7¾c., and 550 hhds. New-Orleans at 7¾c. Refined in demand, with Cut Loaf quoted at 11c.; Granulated at 10¼c.@10¾c., and other kinds as before.

WHISKY—Very dull; quoted nominally at $1 13, with 25 bbls. reported sold at this price. Also, 50 bbls., before Change, at the market rate.

FREIGHTS—The feature of the business has been the improved demand for room on berth and charter suited to the Grain trade, with rates quoted stronger and favoring ship-owners. A moderate movement has been reported in other lines at somewhat steadier rates.....For Liverpool, the engagements reported, since our last, have been, by sail, 800 bales Cotton, (compressed,) at 9-32d. ₱ lb.; 200 tons Oil-cake, at 22s. 3d. ₱ ton, and, by steam, 1,200 pks. Provisions, mainly Bacon, at 32s. 6d.; 50 pks. Leather at 50s. ₱ ton, with Grain room quoted at 8d. ₱ 60 lb., bid. And, by steam, from Philadelphia, (reported thence,) 350 bales Cotton at 1-32d.@5-16d. ₱ lb.; 60,000 bushels Wheat at 5½d. ₱ bushel; 150 tcs. Beef at 7s. ₱ tierce; 20 tons Leather at 60s.; 50 tons Hides, 600 tons Lard and Bacon, and 200 tons Tallow at 35s.@40s., 450 bags Cloverseed at 45s. ₱ ton, and 50 hhds. Kentucky Tobacco at 42s. 6d.....For London, by steam, 150 pks. Seed, reported at 40s. ₱ ton.....For Glasgow, by steam, 2,000 pks. Bacon, Lard, and Cheese, reported at 32s. 6d.@35s. ₱ ton; 150 bbls. Apples and 150 pks. Seed on private terms.....For Hull, by steam, 24,000 bushels Corn at 3½d. ₱ 60 lb., and 700 bxs. Bacon at 35s. ₱ ton.....For Bristol, by sail, 500 bbls. Flour at 2s. 9d. ₱ bbl.....For Cork and orders, for Bremen for Grain was in good request in the local market, and quoted at 6s. 10½d.@7s., (with a Norwegian bark, hence, with about 3,000 quarters, rumored closed, but without reliable particulars;) also, a British bark, with about 3,500 quarters Grain, from Baltimore, reported on private terms, and an Austrian brig, (to arrive,) with about 3,200 quarters do., from do., at 7s. ₱ quarter and £10 gratuity.....For Dublin, a Norwegian bark, 532 tons, with about 3,500 quarters Grain, from Baltimore, at 7s. ₱ quarter.....For the United Kingdom, direct, some inquiry was noted for tonnage for Resin, from Wilmington, on the basis of 3s. 6d.....For Havre, by steam, (reported as of recent shipment,) 150 bags Coffee, 1,900 pks. Provisions, 1,000 pks. Hides, 50 bags Seed, 2,300 pks. Merchandise, and 5,500 Staves on private terms. Also a British brig, 330 tons, hence, with about 2,100 bbls. Naphtha, reported at 5s. ₱ bbl.....For Antwerp, by steam, from Philadelphia, (reported thence,) 450 bales Cotton at 5-16d. ₱ lb.; 25,000 bushels Wheat at 9d. ₱ bushel; 1,300 tons Lard, Bacon, and Tallow, and 50 tons Hides at 37s. 6d.; 50 tons Leather at 60s. ₱ ton; and 300 hhds. Tobacco at 27s. 6d.@40s.....For Bremen, by steam, 100 bales Cotton, (reported as of recent shipment,) at 9c. ₱ lb.; 250 pks. Lard, and 50 pks. Cheese, at 35s. ₱ ton. Also, similar sales, Payson Merrill, Esq., Referee, of a one-third interest in the building, with lease of lot, 18.5 by 89, No. 57 John street, north side, 62.7 feet east of Dutch street.

By A. H. Muller & Son, Supreme Court foreclosure sale, Frank Rudd, Esq., Referee, of two lots, each 25 by 100.5, on East Fifty-fourth street, south side, 75 feet west of First avenue.

By George H. Scott, Supreme Court foreclosure sale, John Lindley, Esq., Referee, of a house, with lot 25.8 by 115, on Fourth avenue, east side, 28 feet north of Seventeenth street, and also one-fourth interest in a lot 10 by 131, on East Seventeenth street, north side, 115 feet east of Fourth avenue.

Thursday, Feb. 10.

By Richard V. Harnett, Supreme Court partition sale, Charles B. Caldwell, Esq., Referee, of the five-story brick store, with lot, 24.11 by 100.4, No. 27 Ferry street, north side, 49 feet east of Jacob street, also, one five story brick store with lot, 19.5 by 50, No. 4 Jacob street, east side, 79.7 feet north of Ferry street, and one five-story brick store with lot, 19.5 by 76.2, No. 6 Ferry street, adjoining above. Also, Supreme Court foreclosure sale, Charles P. Latting, Esq., Referee, of a house, with lot 19 by 102.9 on East Eighty-sixth street, south side, 247 feet west of Third avenue, also a building with plot 34 by 102.9 on the same street adjoining.

By E. H. Ludlow & Co., Supreme Court foreclosure sale, F. C. Barlow, Esq., Referee, of the house, with lot 19.10 by 45, No. 725 Third avenue, east side, 40 feet north of Forty-fifth street. Also, similar sale, A. T. Ackert, Esq., Referee, of the house, with lot 25 by 102.9, No. 224 East Eighth street, south side, 300 feet east of Third avenue. Also, similar sale, C. H. Hildreth, Esq., Referee, of a plot of land 100 by 150, on Washington avenue, west side, 100 feet south of Fletcher street, West Farms, Twenty-fourth Ward.

By A. H. Muller & Son, public auction sale of the three-story marble front house, with lot 25 by 137.6, No. 714 Broadway, east side, between Fourth street and Astor place, and directly opposite Washington place. Also, similar sale of five three-story brick stores and dwellings, with lots each 20 by 100, on Ninth avenue, south-east corner of Forty-fourth street.

By D. M. Seaman, Supreme Court foreclosure sale, William Sinclair, Esq., Referee, of two houses, with lots each 25 by 98.9 on West Forty-first street, north side, 300 feet east of Eighth avenue, and one house, with lot 24 by 98.9, on West Forty-first street, south side, 300.4 feet east of Eighth avenue.

By Winans & Davies, Supreme Court foreclosure sale, W. P. Dixon, Esq., Referee, of a house, with plot 78 by 150, on Fourth avenue, east side, 53 feet north of Eighteenth street.

By Richard V. Harnett, Supreme Court foreclosure sale, Thomas Boese, Esq., Referee, of a house, with lot 25 by 90, on West Thirty-eighth street, south side, 200 feet west of Tenth avenue.

By E. Hall, at Carpenter's Hotel, Morrisania, at 12 M., Supreme Court foreclosure sale, of a house, with lot 25 by 100, on East One Hundred and Forty-fourth street, south side, 129.5 feet east of Third avenue.

Friday, Feb. 11.

By Blackwell & Riker, Supreme Court foreclosure sale, C. C. Bigelow, Esq., Referee, of a house, with lot 19.5 by 100.11, on East One Hundred and Twenty-third street, north side, 235 feet west of Fourth avenue.

By Richard V. Harnett, Superior Court foreclosure sale, Ann Rosa Monell, Esq., Referee, of a house, with lot 20 by 99.11, on West One Hundred and Thirtieth street, north side, 155 feet east of Sixth avenue, as widened.

By William Kennelly, Supreme Court foreclosure sale, William Sinclair, Esq., Referee, of a house, with lot 18.9 by 75, on Willett street, west side, 93.5 feet north of Stanton street.

Saturday, Feb. 12.

By E. H. Ludlow & Co., Supreme Court foreclosure sale, T. H. Landon, Esq., Referee, of the four-story English basement brick house, with lot 20 by 99.10, 375 feet fourth avenue, east side, 60 feet south of Twenty-second street.

By James M. Miller, Supreme Court foreclosure sale, G. P. Smith, Esq., Referee, of a house, with lot 18.10 by 75 feet on First avenue, east side, 379 feet south of One Hundred and Eighteenth street.

By Richard V. Harnett, Supreme Court foreclosure sale, R. M. Hunt, Esq., Referee, of a house, with lot 20 by 99.11 on East One Hundred and Thirty-third street, south side, 95 feet west of Fourth avenue.

By Steele & Carter, foreclosure sale, by order of the Court of Common Pleas, W. S. Kelley, Esq., Referee, of a tract of land 64 by 662 by 694.4 by 647, on Third avenue and Thirty-eighth street, north-east corner of St. Ann's avenue, Morrisania, Twenty-third Ward.

EXCHANGE SALES—SATURDAY, FEB. 5.

NEW-YORK.

By James M. Miller.

1 three-story brick house and lot, No. 17 Watts st., s. s., 144.2 ft. e. of Varick st., lot 21.2x82.....	$7,500
1 three-story brick house and lot, No. 21 Watts st., s. s., 100 ft. e. of Varick st., lot 23.2x95.	7,700

By E. H. Ludlow & Co.

1 three-story and basement brown-stone-front house and lot, East 124th st., s. s., 205 ft. w. of 3d av., lot 18.9x99.11.....	$5,000

By E. A. Lawrence & Co.

1 three-story and basement Ohio-stone-front house and lease of lot, West 45th st., n. s., 360 ft. w. of 8th av., lot 20x100.5; lease dated May 1, 1872, term 20 years; ground rent $360 per annum.....	$7,100

RECORDED REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

NEW-YORK.

Friday, Feb. 4.

54th st., s. s., 200 ft. e. of 11th av., 25.3¼ x142.1x irregular; Rudolph J. Schott and wife to Marie Papst.....	$9,500
56th st., n. s., 275 ft. w. of 9th av., 25x100.5; Martha Ruck and husband to Margaret T. Donough.....	19,250
66th st., No. 306, s. s., 100 ft. e. of 2d av., 18.9x100.5, ½ part of; Philipp Mueller and wife to Peter Sauerbrey.....	1,023
20th st., s. s., 125.7 ft. e. of Broadway, 24.10 x92; Samuel Hopkins and wife to Albert R. Gallatin.....	32,500
15th st., s. s., 217 ft. w. of 1st av., 21x103.3; Edmund Coleman et al. to Mina Gallatin.....	nom.
48th st., s. s., 245 ft. w. of 6th av., 20x100.5; Amelia Frank and husband to Sally E. Newman.....	21,500
74th st., s. s., 83.6 ft. w. of 2d av., 16.6x76; Jacob David and wife to John Sherman.....	12,000
56th st., n. s., 275 ft. w. of 9th av., 25x100.5; Charles Diehl and wife to Martha Ruck.....	19,300
42d st., n. s., 100 ft. w. of 8th av., 25x98.9; Child H. Childs and wife to Noah A. Childs.	11,000
King's Bridge road, e. s., 50x100; Mary A. Dyokman to Fanny B. Dyokman.....	4,500
60th st., n. s., 300 ft. w. of 2d av., 25x100.5; John B. Harvey to Morits Hersberg.....	nom.
60th st., n. s., 125 ft. w. of 1st av., 25x100.5; Isaac A. Hance to Isaac V. D. Schuyler.....	nom.
60th st., n. s., 150 ft. w. of 1st av., 25x100.5; Isaac V. D. Schuyler and wife to Moritz Herzberg.....	nom.
52d st., s. s., 225 ft. e. of 9th av., 25x100.5; Thomas McPherson and wife to John Sexton.	22,000
Lexington av., n. e. corner 77th st., 70x102.2; James Sharkey and wife to Thomas Corcoran.....	.....
82d st., n. s., 78 ft. w. of Avenue A, 20x81.5; Wilhelm Neuhaus to Charlotte Ahlrels.....	8,000
Henry st., s. s., 287.3 ft. e. of Seammel st., 24x course of block; Kaspar Abt to Laura L. Waller.....	30,000
30th st., No. 443, n. s., 225 ft. e. of 10th av., 20x98.9; John Roeder to George Kepper.....	2,000
39th st., s. s., 225 ft. e. of 10th av., 25x98.9; John Hughes and wife to John McCue.....	3,000
6th av., n. e. corner of 116th st., 50x75; Rufus F. Andrews, Referee, to Henry Van Schaick..	9,600
102d st., s. s., 175 ft. w. of 11th av., 25x100.11; Charles C. Bigelow, (Referee,) to Alonzo E. Hamilton.....	2,675
11th av., w. s., 25.11 ft. s. of 102d st., 25x100; same to same.....	2,525

LEASES RECORDED.

13th st., East, No. 208, 5 years; William H. Gil to Mary Chase.....	$1,500
5th av., w. s., between 22d and 23d sts., (No. 184,) 10 years; Robert J. Livingston to W. H. Gunther and others.....	15,000

CITY REAL ESTATE.

BROADWAY AND 38TH ST.—TO CAPITALISTS AND OTHERS—To lease for a term of years, this magnificent plot of Broadway property, on the north-east corner of 38th st., 100 feet front by 140 feet deep. The prominent position of this property, warrants immediately, permanent, and substantial improvements. For terms, inquire of JOSIAH JEX, No. 1,235 Broadway.

FOR SALE—NO. 18 EAST 40TH ST.—THIS EXtra large and first-class brown-stone house, between 5th and Madison avs.; house 30x70 feet; lot full depth; in thorough sanitaria, and the house cannot be found, and its locality unsurpassed; it is now offered at a great bargain. Further details and permits apply to JOSIAH JEX, No. 1,235 Broadway.

FOR SALE, AT GREAT BARGAIN, WITH IMMEDIATE POSSESSION—Elegant brown-stone house on 5th av., near 48th st.; on 46th st., near 5th av.; on 47th st., near 5th av.; on 61st st., near 5th av.; on 53d st., near 5th av.; on 61st st., near 4th av.; large house near Windsor Hotel, suitable for club-house. S. EDDY, No. 2 Park place.

NO. 9 WEST 48TH ST.

SUPERB HOUSE, 25 FEET WIDE, EXTRA DEEP.

Butler's pantry; extension; side lights on each story; built by late owner; elegantly finished, and for sale by order of Executors. Plans and further information at No. 3 Pine st. E. H. LUDLOW & CO.

NO. 144 WEST 53D ST.

BEAUTIFUL THREE-STORY TWENTY-FOOT HOUSE.

We offer for sale this medium-size brown-stone house and lot at a great sacrifice. It has been lately put in complete order, at an outlay of several thousand dollars, and is in every respect most thorough and convenient. E. H. LUDLOW & CO., No. 3 Pine st.

FOR SALE OR TO LEASE.—A GOOD THREE-story high stoop house, 22.6 by about 80x98.9, with extension; modern improvements, good order; extra plumbing and ventilation. Price, $15,000, or to lease, $1,400. Immediate possession.

JAMES R. EDWARDS,
No. 108 West 23d st.

NO. 59 5TH AV.

25x60, with three-story back building and back stairs; well arranged and in perfect order; lot 100; price reduced, and ninety per cent. will be left on mortgage, if desired, or the whole amount can be paid in cash. Apply to E. H. LUDLOW & CO., No. 3 Pine st.

TWENTY-ONE LOTS—EACH ABOUT 25X90 feet, with 32 feet front entrance, vault, &c., on Reade st., well lighted. (200 windows.) Also, if wanted, the entire store, No. 309 Greenwich st., 28 feet front, connected with the twenty-one lots. Apply to R. L. & A. STUART, No. 169 Chambers st.

CITY REAL ESTATE.

E. A. CRUIKSHANK & CO.,
NO. 68 BROADWAY.

Offer for sale the following dwellings:

3-s. b. s., 20-ft. front, W. 32d st., near 6th av..	$21,000
4-s. b. s., 20 ft. front, cor. Mad. av., near Park..	28,000
4-s. b. s., 20 ft. front, 58th st., near Madison av.	25,000
3-s. b. s., 16.8 ft. East 43d st., near 2d av.....	11,500
3-s. b'k, 16.8 ft. front, East 43d st., near 2d av.	9,000
4-s. b. s., 20 ft. front, W. 130th st., near 5th av.	17,000
4-s. b. s., 18.8 ft. front, W. 53d st., near 6th av.	25,000
3-s. b. s., 20 ft. front, Lexington av., near 53d st.	20,000
3-s. b. s., 25 ft. front, Lexington av., near 54th st.	25,000
4-s. b. s., 20 ft. front, E. 32d st. near Madison av.	25,000
4-s. b. s., 16.8 ft. front, E. 57th st., near 5th av.	45,000
3-s. b. s., 19 ft. front, W. 42d st., near 10th av.	12,500

A MEDIUM-SIZED ENGLISH-BASEMENT four-story brown-stone house, between 5th and 6th avs., 17th and 23d sts.; a cosy, comfortable dwelling, in elegant order throughout, requiring little or no expenditure, and with many extra conveniences; possession May 1. Price of house $30,000. Carpets, gas-fixtures, mirrors, shades, and safe sold if desired. Terms of payment very easy. Some fine purchasers willing to give a fair price for a good house, call on V. K. STEVENSON, Jr., No. 4 Pine st., or 33 East 17th st.

V. K. STEVENSON, JR.,
GRAND CENTENNIAL LIST,

Spring of 1876, containing large and small houses, at SPECIAL REDUCTIONS, mailed free or given gratis upon application at either of his offices.

FOR SALE—BY ORDER OF EXECUTORS, TO close an estate, the 25-foot four-story brown-stone house No. 206 5th av., south-east corner of 21st st. For full particulars apply to HOMER MORGAN, No. 2 Pine st.

FOR SALE—A FOUR-STORY HIGH-STOOP BROWN-stone house in East 21st st., between Broadway and 4th av.; size, 24x60x98.9; in perfect order; possession May 1, 1876. For full particulars apply to HOMER MORGAN, No. 2 Pine st.

FOR SALE—BY ORDER OF EXECUTORS, TO close the estate, the elegant, extra-wide house and lot No. 264 5th av., south-west corner of 29th st. Possession May 1, 1876. For full particulars apply to HOMER MORGAN, No. 2 Pine st.

FOR SALE.—ON WEST 53D ST., CLOSE TO 5TH av., a four-story high stoop brown stone house, 20x53x100.5; in perfect order, rented, &c. Price reasonable. For permits, &c., apply to HOMER MORGAN, No. 2 Pine st.

FOR SALE—AN ELEGANT PLOT ON A CORNER on 5th av., below 59th st., 100 feet on the avenue by 120 feet deep. Apply to HOMER MORGAN, No. 2 Pine st.

E. A. CRUIKSHANK & CO.,
No. 68 Broadway.

Special charge taken of vacant houses. Property sold, rented, and appraised.

EVERY REASONABLE OFFER FOR Houses on my printed list will be entertained. Call or send for list. ISAAC MONIS, No. 111 Broadway; rooms G and H, basement.

JOHN S. PIERCE, NO. 5 PINE ST., HAS trust funds to loan and to purchase mortgages on approved New-York and Brooklyn real estate. Principals apply with papers.

FOR SALE—A NUMBER OF VERY DESIRABLE first-class dwelling-houses on 5th and Madison avs. and cross streets. HOLLISTER & MARIE, 4 Pine st.

AT A BARGAIN.—HOUSE ON 36TH ST., NEAR 7th av.; 20x50; three stories; brown stone; $15,000, cash; possession. S. EDDY, No. 2 Park place.

COUNTRY REAL ESTATE.

A MAGNIFICENT COUNTRY-SEAT ON east bank of the Hudson, north of Poughkeepsie; eighty acres; immense quantities fruit; brick mansion lodge; numerous out-buildings; large river front; docks; ice-houses; unequaled river and mountain views; at a sacrifice. Photographs at our office.

HOPKINS & CARRINGTON, No. 1 East 22d st.

ORANGE, N. J.—COUNTRY HOUSES, LANDS, and village lots for sale; a great variety. Also, furnished and unfurnished houses to let for season or year, by WALTER E. SMITH, formerly Blackwell & Smith, Orange, corner of Main and Cone sts.

REAL ESTATE AT AUCTION.

SALE OF WABASH AND ERIE CANAL ITS FRANCHISE AND LANDS.

United States Circuit Court.—District of Indiana.—JONATHAN K. GAPEN vs. THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE WABASH AND ERIE CANAL.—In Chancery.—Public notice is hereby given, that pursuant to a decree of the Court made in the above entitled cause at the November Term, 1875, the Samuel B. Gookins, Special Master in Chancery, and Thomas Dowling, Resident Trustee, will offer for sale at Public Auction to the highest bidder, on the 24th day of February, 1876, at 10 o'clock A. M., at the Court-house door, in the City of Terre Haute, Vigo County, Indiana, the Wabash and Erie Canal, with all its appurtenances and franchise, and also the lands and lots, now vested in the defendants, as directed by the said decree.

TERMS OF SALE.

The said canal and lands will be sold on the following terms and conditions: Ten per cent. of the purchase money to be paid in cash, upon the confirmation of the sale by the Court, and the remainder to be paid within one year from that time, with interest at six per cent. per annum, and with approved security; all sales subject to approval by the Court. A detailed description of the property to be sold may be had upon application, either personally or by mail, to Charles Butler, Esquire, No. 12 Wall street, in the City of New-York, or to

S. B. GOOKINS, Special Master in Chancery.
THOMAS DOWLING, Resident Trustee.
TERRE HAUTE, Ind., Jan. 13, 1876. ja24-law5wM

ADRIAN H. MULLER, Auctioneer.

AUCTION SALE OF VALUABLE PROPERTY:

NO. 714 BROADWAY,
SOUTH-EAST CORNER 9TH AV. AND 44TH ST.

ADRIAN H. MULLER & SON will sell at auction, on THURSDAY, Feb. 10, at 12 o'clock, at the Exchange Salesroom, No. 111 Broadway:

BROADWAY.—The three-story marble-front house and lot No. 714 Broadway, east side, between 4th st. and Astor place, and opposite Washington place, lot 25x137 feet 8 inches.

NINTH AVENUE.—The 5 3-story brick stores (with dwellings), and lots

SHIPPING.

CUNARD LINE B. & N. A. R. M. S. P. CO.

NOTICE.

With the view of diminishing the chances of collision, the steamers of this line take a specified course for all seasons of the year.

On the outward passage from Queenstown to New-York or Boston, crossing meridian of 50 at 43 latitude, or nothing to the north of 43.

On the homeward passage, crossing the meridian of 50 at 42, or nothing to the north of 42.

FROM NEW-YORK FOR LIVERPOOL AND QUEENSTOWN.

PARTHIA.....WED., Feb. 9 | JAVA.....WED., Feb. 23
CALABRIA..WED. Feb. 16 | *RUSSIA...WED., March 1

Steamers marked * do not carry steerage passengers.

Cabin passage, $80, $100, and $130, gold, according to accommodation. Return tickets on favorable terms. Steerage tickets to and from all parts of Europe at very low rates. Freight and passage office, No. 4 Bowling green.

CHAS. G. FRANCKLYN, Agent.

WHITE STAR LINE.

FOR QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL, CARRYING UNITED STATES MAIL.

The steamers of this line take the Lane Route recommended by Lieut. Maury, U. S. N., going south of the Banks on the passage to Queenstown all the year round.

BALTIC.....SATURDAY, Feb. 12, at 7 A. M.
ADRIATIC.....SATURDAY, Feb. 19, at 1 P. M.
BALTIC.....SATURDAY, Feb. 26, at 6 A. M.
REPUBLIC.....SATURDAY, March 4, at noon

from White Star Dock, Pier No. 52 North River.

These steamers are uniform in size and unsurpassed in appointments. The saloon, staterooms, smoking and bath rooms are amidships where the noise and motion are least felt, affording a degree of comfort hitherto unattainable at sea.

Rates—saloon, $80, $90, and $100, gold; return tickets on favorable terms; steerage, $28.

For passage or further information apply at the Company's offices, No. 37 Broadway, New-York.

E. J. CORTIS, Agent.

ONLY DIRECT LINE TO FRANCE.

THE GENERAL TRANSATLANTIC COMPANY'S MAIL STEAMERS BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND HAVRE, VIA PLYMOUTH.

The splendid vessels on this favorite route for the Continent (being more southerly than any other,) will sail from Pier No. 50 North River, as follows:

LAFAYETTE, Bellard.....Saturday, March 4
LABRADOR, Sanglier.....Saturday, March 18

PRICE OF PASSAGE IN GOLD, (including wine,) first cabin, $110 to $120, according to accommodation. Second cabin, $72 third, $40. Return tickets at reduced rates. Steerage, $26, with superior accommodations, including all necessaries without extra charge. Steamers marked thus * do not carry steerage passengers.

LOUIS DE BEBIAN, Agent, 55 Broadway.

FOR LIVERPOOL,

(Via Queenstown.)

CARRYING THE UNITED STATES MAIL.

TUESDAY.

Leaving Pier No. 46 North River as follows:

MONTANA.....Feb. 8, at 3 P. M.
NEVADA.....Feb. 22, at 3 P. M.
IDAHO.....Feb. 29, at 8 A. M.
DAKOTA.....March 7, at 3 P. M.
WISCONSIN.....March 14, at 8 A. M.
WYOMING.....March 21, at 2:30 P. M.

RATES FOR PASSENGERS REDUCED.

Steerage, $26; intermediate, $40; cabin, $65 to $80, according to stateroom. Steerage office, No. 29 Broadway. General offices, No. 63 Wall st.

WILLIAMS & GUION.

INMAN LINE.

Royal Mail Steamers are appointed to sail as follows:

FOR QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL.

CITY OF MONTREAL.....Saturday, Feb. 12, at 7 A. M.
CITY OF PARIS.....Saturday, Feb. 19, at 1 P. M.
CITY OF RICHMOND.....Saturday, Feb. 26, at 3 P. M.
CITY OF ANTWERP.....Saturday, March 4, at noon
CITY OF BROOKLYN.....Saturday, March 11, at 3 P. M.

and each succeeding Saturday from Pier No. 45 North River.

RATES OF PASSAGE.

CABIN.....$60, $80 and $100, Gold
STEERAGE.....$28, currency

Drafts issued at low rates.

For cabin passage and general business apply at the company's office, No. 15 Broadway.

For steerage passage at No. 33 Broadway, or Pier No. 45 North River.

JOHN G. DALE, Agent.

STATE LINE.

NEW-YORK TO GLASGOW, LIVERPOOL, DUBLIN, BELFAST, AND LONDONDERRY.

These first-class full-powered steamers will sail from Inside Pier, Hoboken Ferry, New-Jersey, as follows:

STATE OF VIRGINIA.....Thursday, Feb. 10
STATE OF INDIANA.....Thursday, Feb. 24
STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA.....Thursday, March 9

And every alternate Thursday thereafter. First cabin, $60, $70, and $80; return tickets, $120. Second cabin, $40; return tickets, $80. Steerage at lowest rates.

Apply to AUSTIN BALDWIN & CO., Agents, No. 79 Broadway, New-York.

Steerage office No. 45 Broadway.

ATLAS MAIL LINE.

BI-MONTHLY SERVICE TO JAMAICA, HAYTI, COLOMBIA, and ASPINWALL, and to PANAMA and SOUTH PACIFIC PORTS (via Aspinwall.) First-class, full-powered iron-screw steamers, from Pier No. 51, North River:

FOR HAYTI, COLOMBIA, ISTHMUS OF PANAMA, and SOUTH PACIFIC PORTS (via Aspinwall):

ANDES.....Feb. 15.
ALPS.....March 1.

FOR KINGSTON AND HAYTI:

CLARIBEL.....Feb. 17.
ATLAS.....March 9.

Superior first-class passenger accommodation.

FIM. FORWOOD & CO., Agents, No. 56 Wall st.

ANCHOR LINE. CARRYING U. S. MAIL.

NEW-YORK AND GLASGOW.

CALIFORNIA.....SATURDAY, Feb. 12, at 7:30 A. M.
ANCHORIA.....SATURDAY, Feb. 19, 1 P. M.

NEW-YORK TO GLASGOW, LIVERPOOL, OR LONDONDERRY.

Cabin passage, $65, $75, and $80, currency. Intermediate, $35; Steerage, $28.

Company's offices, No. 7 Bowling green.

HENDERSON BROTHERS, Agents.

GREAT SOUTHERN

FREIGHT AND PASSENGER LINE, SAILING FROM PIER NO. 29 NORTH RIVER, WEDNESDAYS and SATURDAYS at 3 P. M.

FOR CHARLESTON, FLORIDA, THE SOUTH, AND SOUTH-WEST.

SOUTH CAROLINA.....WEDNESDAY.....FEB. 9
CITY OF ATLANTA.....SATURDAY.....FEB. 12

SUPERIOR PASSENGER ACCOMMODATIONS.

Insurance to destination one-half of one per cent.

Goods forwarded free of commission. Passenger tickets and bills of lading issued and signed at the office of

JAMES W. QUINTARD & CO., Agents, No. 177 West st., corner Warren,

Or W. P. CLYDE & CO., No. 6 Bowling green.

Or BENTLEY B. HASELL, General Agent

Great Southern Freight Line, 317 Broadway.

PACIFIC MAIL S. S. LINE.

FOR CALIFORNIA, JAPAN, CHINA, AUSTRALIA, NEW-ZEALAND, BRITISH COLUMBIA, &c.

Sailing from Pier foot of Canal st., North River.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO, VIA ISTHMUS OF PANAMA.

S. S. ACAPULCO.....TUESDAY, Feb. 15, at 12 noon,

Connecting for all CENTRAL AMERICAN and SOUTH PACIFIC PORTS.

FROM SAN FRANCISCO TO JAPAN AND CHINA.

S. S. CITY OF NEW-YORK.....March 1.

FROM SAN FRANCISCO TO VICTORIA, PORT TOWNSEND, PORTLAND, &c., &c.

On the 10th and 25th of every month.

For freight or passage apply at foot of Canal st., North River.

H. J. SULLAY, Superintendent.

FLORIDA LINE.

FROM PIER NO. 29 NORTH RIVER,

EVERY WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY, AT 3 P. M.

INSURANCE TO DESTINATION ONE-HALF PER CENT.

GREAT REDUCTION IN FREIGHT AND PASSENGER RATES.

ALWAYS AS LOW AS BY OTHER LINES, AND NO DETENTIONS.

Goods loaded on steamer when shipped.

Mark goods care RAVENEL & CO., Charleston, S. C.

For rates of freight or passage apply to

J. W. QUINTARD & CO., No. 177 West st.

Or to BENTLEY B. HASELL, No. 317 Broadway.

FOR SAVANNAH, GA.,

THE FLORIDA PORTS,

AND THE SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST.

GREAT SOUTHERN FREIGHT AND PASSENGER LINE, CENTRAL RAILROAD OF GEORGIA AND ATLANTIC AND GULF RAILROAD.

THREE STEAM-SHIPS PER WEEK, TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS, AND SATURDAYS.

ASHLAND, Capt. CROWELL, TUESDAY, Feb. 8, from Pier No. 12 North River, at 3 P. M.

R. LOWDEN, Agent, No. 93 West st.

H. LIVINGSTON, Capt. MALLORY, THURSDAY, Feb. 10, from Pier No. 43 North River, at 3 P. M.

WILLIAM R. GARRISON, Agent, No. 5 Bowling green.

SAN JACINTO, Capt. HAZARD, SATURDAY, Feb. 12, from Pier No. 43 North River, at 3 P. M.

WILLIAM R. GARRISON, Agent, No. 5 Bowling green.

CLEOPATRA, Capt. BULKLEY, TUESDAY, Feb. 15, from Pier No. 15 East River, at 3 P. M.

MURRAY, FERRIS & CO., Agents, No. 62 Southst.

Insurance on this line ONE-HALF PER CENT. Superior accommodations for passengers.

Through rates and bills of lading in connection with Central Railroad of Georgia, to all points.

Through rates and bills of lading in connection with the Atlantic and Gulf Railroad and Florida steamers.

GEORGE YONGE, Agent Central Railroad of Georgia, No. 409 Broadway.

WEEKLY FLORIDA LINE.

FOR PORT ROYAL, S. C., FERNANDINA, FLA., and BRUNSWICK, GA. The steam-ships CITY OF AUSTIN, Stevens, Master; CITY OF DALLAS, T. Hines, Master; CITY OF HOUSTON, Deering, Master, will leave Pier No. 50 East River, every THURSDAY at 3 P. M., for Port Royal and Fernandina. This route is the only direct one to Florida without change of steamers. No transshipping of goods and no cartage. Lower rates given than by any other line. Through rates and bills of lading in connection with the Port Royal Railroad to all points in Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee, and with the Atlantic, Gulf, and West India Transit Company to all points in Florida. Insurance one-half per cent.

C. H. MALLORY & CO., or HERM. GELPCKE, No. 153 Maiden Lane.

CHATER & KING, Agents, Fernandina.

Steam-ship CITY OF DALLAS sails Feb. 10.

NEW-YORK AND HAVANA

DIRECT MAIL LINE.

These first-class steam-ships sail regularly at 3 P. M. from Pier No. 13 North River, as follows:

COLUMBUS.....TUESDAY, Feb. 15
CRESCENT CITY.....THURSDAY, Feb. 24

Accommodations unsurpassed. For freight or passage apply to WM. P. CLYDE & CO., No. 6 Bowling Green. MORELLE, LULING & CO., Agents in Havana.

SHIPPING.

NATIONAL LINE.

From Piers Nos. 44 and 47 North River.

FOR LONDON DIRECT.

CANADA.....THURSDAY, Feb. 17, 10 A. M.

FOR QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL.

The elegant new steamers RHODE ISLAND, NARRAGANSETT, Latta, STONINGTON leave Pier No. 33 North River, foot of Jay st., daily, (except Sundays,) at 4:30 P. M.

Through tickets to principal New-England points at R. R. depots and ticket offices. State-rooms secured at offices of Westcott Express Co. and at 319 Broadway.

PROVIDENCE LINE (direct.)

Steam-ships ELECTRA and GALATEA leave Pier No. 27 North River, foot of Park place, daily, (except Sundays,) at 4 P. M.

Direct connection to Worcester and points beyond. Freights via either line taken at lowest rates.

D. W. FILKINS, G. P. Ag't. D. S. BABCOCK, Pres't.

FOR BRIDGEPORT AND ALL POINTS ON Housatonic and Naugatuck Railroad.—Fare, $1. Steamers leave Catharine-slip at 12 o'clock noon.

FOR NEW-HAVEN, HARTFORD, AND THE NORTH.—Steamers leave Peck slip for New-Haven at 3 and 11 P. M., connecting with road.

RAILROADS.

CENTRAL RAILROAD OF NEW-JERSEY. ALLENTOWN LINE TO THE WEST.

Passenger and freight station in New-York, foot of Liberty st. Connects at Somerville with South Branch Railroad; at Hampton Junction with Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad; at Phillipsburg, with Lehigh and Susquehanna Division; also with Lehigh Valley Railroad. Direct line to Harrisburg, Pittsburg, and the West; also to Central Pennsylvania and New-York State.

WINTER ARRANGEMENT.

Commencing Dec. 1, 1875.—Leave New-York as follows:

5:30 A. M.—NEWS TRAIN for Easton, Belvidere, Bethlehem, Bath, Allentown, Mauch Chunk, Tamaqua, Tamanend, Wilkesbarre, Pottsville, Scranton, &c.

6:15 A. M.—Way Train for Dunellen.

7:45 A. M.—Way Train for Flemington and Easton, connects at junction with Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad.

9:00 A. M.—MORNING EXPRESS, Daily, (except Sundays,) for Easton, Allentown, Harrisburg, and the West. Connects at Easton for Mauch Chunk, Tamaqua, Towanda, Wilkesbarre, Pottsville, Scranton, Danville, Williamsport, &c.

10:15 A. M.—Way Train for Somerville and Flemington.

1 P. M.—EXPRESS for Flemington, Easton, Allentown, Mauch Chunk, Tamaqua, Mahanoy City, Hazleton, Wilkesbarre, Reading, Columbia, Lancaster, Ephrata, Pottsville, Harrisburg, &c.

2:45 P. M.—EXPRESS for Easton, Belvidere, Bath, Mauch Chunk, Wilkesbarre, and Scranton.

3:30 P. M.—Way Train for Dunellen.

4:00 P. M.—Way Train for Easton, Allentown, and Mauch Chunk. Connects at Junction with Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad.

4:30 P. M.—Way Train for Somerville and Flemington.

5:00 P. M.—Way Train for Dunellen.

5:15 P. M.—EVENING EXPRESS, daily, for Easton, Allentown, Mauch Chunk, Wilkesbarre, Towanda, Reading, and Harrisburg.

5:30 P. M.—Way Train for Somerville.

6:00 P. M.—Way Train for Somerville.

6:30 P. M.—Way Train for Dunellen.

7:00 P. M.—Way Train for Somerville.

8:30 P. M.—For Easton.

9:30 P. M.—Way Train for Somerville.

12:00 P. M.—Way Train for Dunellen.

For Elizabeth at 5:30, 6:15, 6:35, 7:00, 7:30, 7:45 8:00, 8:45, 9:00, 9:30, 10:15, 11:15, A. M.; 12:00 M. 12:45, 1:00, 2:00, 2:45, 3:00, 3:30, 3:45, 4:00, 4:15, 4:30 4:45, 5:00, 5:15, 5:30, 5:45, 6:00, 6:15, 6:30, 7:00, 7:40 8:30, 9:30, 10:30, 11:15, 12:00 P. M.

R. E. RICKER, Superintendent and Engineer.

H. P. BALDWIN, General Passenger Agent.

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.

GREAT TRUNK LINE

AND UNITED STATES MAIL ROUTE.

Trains leave New-York, via Desbrosses and Courtlandt Street Ferries, as follows:

Express for Harrisburg, Pittsburg, the West and South, with Pullman Palace Cars attached, 9:30 A. M., 6 and 8:30 P. M. Sunday, 6 and 8:30 P. M.

For Williamsport and Lock Haven, 9:30 A. M. and 8:30 P. M. For Corry and Erie, 8:30 P. M., connecting at Corry for Titusville, Petroleum Centre, and the Oil Regions.

For Baltimore, Washington, and the South, "Limited Washington Express" of Pullman Parlor Cars, daily, except Sunday, 9:30 A. M.; arrive Washington, 4:10 P. M. Regular at 8:40 A. M., 3 and 9 P. M. Sunday, 3 P. M.

Express for Philadelphia, 7, 7:30, 8:40, 9:30 A. M., 12:30, 3, 4, 4:10, 5, 6, 7, 8:30, 9 P. M. and 12 night. Sunday, 5, 9, 7, 8:30, and 9 P. M. Emigrant and second class, 2 P. M.

For trains to Newark, Elizabeth, Rahway, Princeton, Trenton, Perth Amboy, Flemington, Belvidere, and other points, see local schedules at all ticket offices.

Trains arrive: From Pittsburg, 6:55 and 10:50 A. M. and 9:20 P. M. daily; 10:15 A. M. and 7:40 P. M. daily, except Monday. From Washington and Baltimore, 6:20 A. M., 4:05, 5:15, and 10:27 P. M.; Sunday, 6:20 A. M. From Philadelphia, 5:10, 6:20, 6:55, 10:15, 11:20, 11:54 A. M., 2:15, 4:05, 5:15, 6:10, 7:40, 8:44, 9:20, 10:27 P. M.; Sunday, 5:10, 6:20, 6:55, 11:54 A. M., 7:40, 9:20, and 10:27 P. M.

Ticket offices, Nos. 526 and 944 Broadway, No. 1 Astor House, and foot of Desbrosses and Courtlandt sts., No. 4 Court st., Brooklyn; Nos. 114, 116, and 118 Hudson st., Hoboken. Emigrant ticket office, No. 8 Battery place.

FRANK THOMSON, General Manager. D. M. BOYD, Jr., General Passenger Agent.

LEHIGH VALLEY RAILROAD.

ARRANGEMENT OF PASSENGER TRAINS. Dec. 5, 1875.

Leave depots foot of Cortlandt and Desbrosses sts. at 7 A. M.—For Easton, Bethlehem, Allentown, Mauch Chunk, Hazleton, Beaver Meadow, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, Mount Carmel, Wilkesbarre, Pittston, Elmira, &c., connecting with trains for Ithack, Auburn, Rochester, Buffalo, Niagara Falls, and the West.

1 P. M.—For Easton, Bethlehem, Allentown, Mauch Chunk, Hazleton, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, Wilkesbarre, Pittston, Tunkhannock, &c., making close connections for Reading, Pottsville, and Harrisburg.

4 P. M.—For Easton, Bethlehem, Allentown, and Mauch Chunk, stopping at all stations.

6:30 P. M.—Night Express, daily, for Easton, Bethlehem, Allentown, Mauch Chunk, Wilkesbarre, Pittston, Elmira, &c., connecting with trains for Ithaca, Auburn, Rochester, Buffalo, Niagara Falls, and the West. Pullman's sleeping coaches attached.

General passenger office corner Church and Cortlandt sts., CHAS. H. CUMMINGS, Agent.

ROBERT H. SAYRE, Superintendent and Eng'r.

NEW-YORK CENTRAL AND HUDSON RIVER RAILROAD.—After Jan. 1, 1876, through trains will leave Grand Central Depot:

8:00 A. M., Chicago and Northern Express, with drawing-room cars through to Rochester.

10:30 A. M., special Chicago Express, with drawing-room cars to Rochester, and Buffalo.

11:00 A. M., Northern and Western Express.

4:00 P. M., Montreal Express, with sleeping cars from New-York to St. Albans, arriving at Montreal 8:50 A. M.

6:00 P. M., Express, with sleeping cars, for Watertown and Canandaigua. Also, for Montreal via Plattsburg.

8:30 P. M., Pacific Express, daily, with sleeping cars, for Rochester, Niagara Falls, Buffalo, Cleveland and Cincinnati; also for Chicago, via both L. S. and M. C. Railroads.

11:00 P. M., Express, with sleeping cars, for Albany and Troy. Way trains as per local Time Table.

C. H. KENDRICK, General Passenger Agent.

ERIE RAILWAY.

Winter Arrangement of through trains, December, 1875. From Chambers Street Depot. (For 23d st. see note below.)

9:00 A. M., daily, except Sundays, Cincinnati and Chicago Day Express, Drawing-room coaches to Buffalo and sleeping coaches to Cincinnati and Detroit. Sleeping coaches to Chicago.

10:45 A. M., daily, except Sundays, Express Mail for Buffalo and Niagara Falls. Sleeping coach to Buffalo.

7:00 P. M., daily, Pacific Express to the West. Sleeping coaches through to Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Cincinnati, and Chicago without change. Hotel dining coaches to Cleveland and Chicago.

7:00 P. M., except Sundays, Western Emigrant train.

Above trains leave Twenty-third Street Ferry at 8:45 and 10:15 A. M., and 6:45 P. M.

For local trains, see time-tables and cards in hotels and depots.

JNO. N. ABBOTT, General Passenger Agent.

NEW-YORK, NEW-HAVEN AND HARTFORD RAILROAD.

After Nov. 29, 1875, trains leave Grand Central Depot (42d st.) for New-Canaan Railroad at 8:05 A. M. 1:00 and 4:40 P. M.; Danbury and Norwalk Railroad at 8:05 A. M., 1:00 and 4:40 P. M.; Naugatuck Railroad at 8:05 A. M. and 3:00 P. M.; Housatonic Railroad at 8:05 A. M. and 3:00 P. M.; New-Haven and Northampton Railroad at 8:05 A. M. and 3:00 P. M.; For Newport at 8:05 A. M. and 1 P. M.; Boston and Albany Railroad at 8:05 and 10 A. M., 3 and 9 P. M., (7 P. M. on Sunday;) Boston (via Shore Line) at 1 and 10 P. M., (10 P. M. on Sundays.)

Way trains as per local time tables.

J. T. MOODY, Superintendent New-York Division.

E. M. REED, Vice President. New-York.

WICKFORD RAILROAD ROUTE TO NEWPORT, R. I.—Passengers for this line take 8:05 A. M. and 1 P. M. express trains from Grand Central Depot, arriving at 4:20 and 8:20 P. M.

THEODORE WARREN, Superintendent.

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PROVIDENCE AND STONINGTON STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

Between NEW-YORK and BOSTON.

REDUCTION OF FARE

Between NEW-YORK and PROVIDENCE to $3.
Between NEW-YORK and BOSTON to $4.

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FOR PROVIDENCE, NEWPORT, AND BOSTON.

The elegant new steamers RHODE ISLAND, NARRAGANSETT, Latta, STONINGTON leave Pier No. 33 North River, foot of Jay st., daily, (except Sundays,) at 4:30 P. M.

Through tickets to principal New-England points at R. R. depots and ticket offices. State-rooms secured at offices of Westcott Express Co. and at 319 Broadway.

PROVIDENCE LINE (direct.)

Steam-ships ELECTRA and GALATEA leave Pier No. 27 North River, foot of Park place, daily, (except Sundays,) at 4 P. M.

Direct connection to Worcester and points beyond. Freights via either line taken at lowest rates.

D. W. FILKINS, G. P. Ag't. D. S. BABCOCK, Pres't.

FOR BRIDGEPORT AND ALL POINTS ON Housatonic and Naugatuck Railroad.—Fare, $1. Steamers leave Catharine-slip at 12 o'clock noon.

FOR NEW-HAVEN, HARTFORD, AND THE NORTH.—Steamers leave Peck slip for New-Haven at 3 and 11 P. M., connecting with road.

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VERMILYE & CO., BANKERS

16 and 18 Nassau st., New-York.

DEALERS IN ALL ISSUES OF GOVERNMENT SECURITIES, NEW-YORK CITY AND BROOKLYN BONDS. BUY AND SELL ON COMMISSION RAILWAY STOCKS, BONDS, AND GOLD.

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WASH'N R. VERMILYE, JAS. A. TROWBRIDGE. DONALD MACKAY, LATHAM A. FISH.

FISK & HATCH,

BANKERS,

No. 5 NASSAU ST., NEW-YORK.

We give particular attention to DIRECT DEALINGS IN GOVERNMENT BONDS AT CURRENT MARKET RATES, and are prepared, at all times, to buy or sell in large or small amounts, to suit all classes of investors. Orders by mail or telegraph will receive careful attention.

We shall be pleased to furnish information in reference to all matters connected with investments in Government Bonds.

We also buy and sell GOLD and GOLD COUPONS, COLLECT DIVIDENDS and TOWN, COUNTY, and STATE COUPONS, &c., and buy and sell, ON COMMISSION, all MARKETABLE STOCKS AND BONDS.

In our BANKING DEPARTMENT we receive deposits and remittances subject to draft, and allow interest, to be credited monthly, on balances averaging, for the month, from $1,000 to $5,000, at the rate of three per cent. per annum, and on balances averaging over $5,000, at the rate of four per cent.

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NO. 18 BROAD STREET, NEW-YORK.

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GOLD; GOVERNMENT, STATE, MUNICIPAL, AND RAILROAD SECURITIES BOUGHT AND SOLD ON COMMISSION.

FISK & HATCH,

BANKERS,

No. 5 NASSAU ST., NEW-YORK.

We give particular attention to DIRECT DEALINGS IN GOVERNMENT BONDS AT CURRENT MARKET RATES, and are prepared, at all times, to buy or sell in large or small amounts, to suit all classes of investors. Orders by mail or telegraph will receive careful attention.

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FISK & HATCH.

NEW-JERSEY MIDLAND RAILWAY.

Bondholders of this road should not deposit their bonds (either first or second mortgage) in the Central Trust Company under a mistaken impression as to the STRENGTH of the "Balestier Plan" of reorganization. The fifteen members of the committee appointed on the 3d February inst., own individually $153,000 of first mortgage bonds, and represent directly over $370,000 more of the same bonds. All but three of said committee were present at said meeting, and ALL have accepted their positions on the committee, and strongly indorsed the "bondholders' plan." Three of said committee had deposited their bonds for themselves and friends in the Central Trust Company, and paid their assessments. They now REVOKE the powers given the Balestier Committee, and approve our plan. Neither should bondholders be misled by statements limiting the time for deposit of bonds under EITHER plan, or threatening that "the sale of the road will now proceed!" There is time enough for all bondholders to consider well the two plans.

J. WYMAN JONES, Chairman Committee.

OFFICE COMMITTEE OF REORGANIZATION, No. 152 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Feb. 5, 1876.

TOLEDO, WABASH AND WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY.—A sufficient number of the shareholders having paid in their contributions toward legal expenses to warrant the Protective Committee in proceeding with defensive measures they have organized for a vigorous opposition to the foreclosure of the gold bond mortgage. Able counsel has been retained, and a careful examination of the case has developed many very strong points in our favor, both in law and equity. Contributions are still received from stockholders who desire to join in the movement.

O. D. ASHLEY, Chairman.
No. 2 Exchange court.

WOOD & DAVIS,

BANKERS,

NO. 31 PINE ST., NEW-YORK.

GOVERNMENT BONDS; STATE, MUNICIPAL, RAILROAD SECURITIES, AND GOLD, BOUGHT AND SOLD ON COMMISSION.

C. D. WOOD. S. D. DAVIS.

OFFICE OF THE CONSOLIDATION COAL COMPANY OF MARYLAND, No. 71 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Feb. 1, 1876.

IN CONFORMITY TO THE CHARTER, THE annual meeting of the stockholders for the election of President and Directors, and for the transaction of other business, will be held at noon on WEDNESDAY, the 16th inst., at the office of the Company, No. 71 Broadway, in the City of New-York, and for the purposes of such election the polls will be kept open for one hour. The transfer books will close Feb. 5, at 2 o'clock P. M., and open on the morning of the 17th inst.

H. C. HICKS, Secretary.

WEBBER, ELLIS & CO.,

COMMISSION STOCK BROKERS,

No. 310 Montgomery st.,
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.,

Will transact a strictly commission business, and give close personal attention to Eastern correspondence. Collections made throughout the Pacific Coast.

New-York References:

WM. DOWD, President, Bank North America.
JOHN H. MONELL, Proprietor Monell's warehouses, No. 475 4th av.

MARIETTA AND CINCINNATI RAILROAD, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY, CINCINNATI, Feb. 3, 1876.

THE TRANSFER-BOOKS OF THIS COMpany, at the New-York and Cincinnati offices, for both stocks and the third and fourth series of mortgage bonds, will be closed for the ten (10) days prior to the annual stock-holders' meeting on Feb. 16, inst.

By order of the President.

(Signed,) CHAS. F. LOW, Secretary.

INDIANAPOLIS, BLOOMINGTON AND Western, and Danville, Urbana, Bloomington and Pekin Railroad bondholders, main line, who have not received copy of plan of the reorganization, can obtain one on application either at office or at secretary's. TIME FOR DEPOSIT OF BONDS EXPIRES FEB. 19, 1876.

AUSTIN CORBIN, No. 61 Broadway.
G. E. TAINTOR, No. 20 Broad st.
JOSIAH B. BLOSSOM, No. 76 Wall st.

A.—DEFAULTED RAILROAD BONDS bought and sold by the old-established house of ALBERT H. NICOLAY & CO., Stock Brokers and Auctioneers, No. 43 Pine st., N. Y.

N. B.—7, 8, and 10 per cent. Choice City and County Bonds and other A1 investment Securities our specialty 24 years, paying 10 to 12 per cent., interest promptly paid, for sale below par.

OFFICE OF THE MERCANTILE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 166 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Feb. 3, 1876.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this company, also for three inspectors of next election will be held at this office on TUESDAY, Feb. 15, 1876. Polls open from 12 M. to 1 P. M.

C. W. PARMELEE, Secretary.

ROBERT WINTHROP & CO.,

BANKERS AND BROKERS,

NO. 18 WALL ST.,

execute orders for STOCKS, BONDS, and GOLD, allow interest on DEPOSITS, and transact a general Banking and Brokerage business.

INSURANCE SCRIP.

Atlantic, Commercial, New-York, Orient, Pacific, Union, bought and sold by WILLIAM C. GILMAN, No. 46 Pine st.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO.,

No. 59 WALL ST.,

ISSUE COMMERCIAL and TRAVELERS' CREDITS AVAILABLE in all PARTS of the WORLD.

INSURANCE STOCKS.

Home, Equitable, Firemen's Fund wanted.
Knickerbocker, North River, Metropolitan for sale by WM. C. GILMAN, No. 46 Pine st.

GAS-LIGHT STOCKS.

SUBURBAN, 23D WARD, NEW-YORK. PEOPLE'S, JERSEY CITY.

A few shares for sale by W. C. NOYES, 4 and 6 Pine st.

WANTED—CITY OF CINCINNATI SIXES, for which full market value will be paid. Address A., Box No. 2,760 Post Office.

MONEY TO LOAN ON MORTGAGE—IN various sums. Apply to HOLLISTER & MARIE, No. 4 Pine st.

FIRE INSURANCE STOCKS

BOUGHT AND SOLD

By E. S. BAILEY, No. 65 Wall st.

FINE ARTS.

ART.

IMPORTANT SALE OF high class AMERICAN AND FOREIGN OIL-PAINTINGS.

To be sold at auction peremptorily on THURSDAY and FRIDAY, Feb. 10 and 11, at 12 o'clock, at the SCHENCK ART GALLERY, No. 60 LIBERTY ST.

EDWARD SCHENCK, auctioneer.

MARBLE MANTELS.

MARBLE AND MARBLEIZED MANTELS.—New designs, from $12 upward; also, monumental work at greatly reduced prices; marble turning for the trade. A. KLABER, No. 134 East 13th st. near 3d av., New-York.

INSTRUCTION.

COLUMBIA COLLEGE ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT.

The intermediate examination of the classes will commence on MONDAY, Feb. 7, at 9:30 A. M.

The Regents of the University of the State of New-York, the Trustees and the Alumni of the college, the parents of students, and all interested in education are invited to attend.

The SECOND SESSION will begin Thursday, Feb. 17, at 9:30 A. M., at which time candidates for admission may present themselves.

F. A. P. BARNARD, LL.D., President.

COLUMBIA COLLEGE SCHOOL OF MINES.

The SECOND SESSION will begin THURSDAY, Feb. 17, at 9:30 A. M.

Practical and theoretical instruction in civil and mining engineering, metallurgy, geology, mineralogy, assaying, analytical and mechanical chemistry, physics, mechanics, mathematics, drawing, French, German, &c., with laboratory practice. Regular courses for the degrees of Civil and Mining Engineer, Bachelor and Doctor of Philosophy. Special students received without examination. Pecuniary aid for those who require it.

F. A. P. BARNARD, LL.D., President.

BUSINESS WRITING, BOOK-KEEPING, ARITHMETIC, CORRESPONDENCE.—MR. DOLBEAR, No. 1,193 Broadway, gives private lessons day or evening, and prepares pupils practically for business in one quarter.

THE MISSES JACOTT'S SCHOOL FOR Young Ladies, with primary department, comprising a thorough English and French course. No. 45 West 127th st.; easily accessible from Westchester County and Long Island. Winter term begins Feb. 2.

RYE SEMINARY.—TWO YOUNG LADIES MAY be admitted to full vacancies now existing. Address Mrs. S. J. LIFE, Rye, N. Y.

DREW LADIES' SEMINARY, CARMEL, N. Y.—Healthful, homelike; a school for earnest work. Spring session opens Feb. 16. GEO. C. SMITH, A.M.

ANTHON GRAMMAR SCHOOL, NO. 252 Madison av., between 38th and 39th sts. Second session commences TUESDAY, Feb. 2.

TEACHERS.

GENTLEMEN DESIRING THOROUGHLY prepared tutors for their sons, can secure them on application to Amer. School Institute, No. 14 Bondst. J. W. SCHERMERHORN, A. M., Actuary.

TEACHERS AND CORRESPONDENTS wanted in every county in the United States. Immediate interest given. Address "American Educational Union," 737 Broadway, N. Y. Established 1857.

WANTED—A GOVERNESS CAPABLE OF TEACHing English, French, and music. Apply to A. DAILEY, No. 588 6th av.

PRIVATE TUTOR, THOROUGHLY EXperienced in all branches, desires pupils. Address CONSTANT, No. 101 East 25th st.

DRY GOODS.

R. H. MACY & CO.

EVERY ARTICLE GUARANTEED AS REPRESENTED.

EXCHANGES MAY BE MADE within one week, or money returned in case of dissatisfaction.

GOODS FIRST CLASS.

FOREIGN GOODS OUR OWN IMPORTATION.

NOVELTIES FROM EUROPE EVERY WEEK.

14TH ST. and 6TH AV., NEW-YORK.

DAMAGED LINENS VERY CHEAP.—ALSO Cloths, Cassimeres, Satinets, Flannels, Blankets, &c., from auction, at low prices.

WM. MATHEWS, 54 Catherine st.

LEGAL NOTICES.

SUPREME COURT, COUNTY OF NEW-YORK.—OSCAR C. FERRIS, as Executor, Catharine A. Ferris and Alice Ferris, as Executrices of the last will and testament of Thomas T. Ferris, deceased, plaintiffs, against WILLIAM MOLLER, Elisabeth J. Moller, his wife, Moses Taylor, Percy R. Pyne, Lawrence Turnure, Henry A. C. Taylor, John J. Jova, Edward S. Terry, Tomas Tomes, Robert R. Minturn, John W. Minturn, William H. Swan, Henry F. Sewall, Josh V. Onativia, Henry Beste, William W. Spence, James C. Spence, Dibrell P. Montague, William W. Spence, Jr., Jules Saenze, and Joseph H. Godwin, as assignee of William Moller and others for the benefit of creditors, defendants.—Summons—for relief. (Com. not. ser.)—To the above-named defendant, Elisabeth J. Moller: You are hereby summoned and required to answer the complaint in this action, which will be filed in the office of the Clerk of the City and County of New-York, at the City Hall, in said City, and to serve a copy of your answer to the said complaint, on the subscriber at his office, No. 158 Broadway, in said City of New-York, within twenty days after the service of this summons on you, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to serve a copy of your answer to the said complaint, the plaintiff in this action will take judgment against you for the sum of two thousand and one hundred and forty-four 42-100 dollars, with interest from the thirtieth day of October, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-four, besides the costs and disbursements of this action.—Dated New-York, Dec. 30, 1875.

JAMES OTIS HOYT, Plaintiff's Attorney.

The complaint in this action was duly filed in the office of the Clerk of the City and County of New-York, on the 31st day of January, 1876.

JAMES OTIS HOYT, Plaintiff's Attorney.

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SUPREME COURT.—CARLOTTA PESSELS, Plaintiff, against

THE FAST MAIL TRAINS.

STATEMENT OF MR. BANGS.

IMPROVEMENTS MADE IN THE POSTAL MAIL SERVICE—COMPARATIVE COST OF THE WORK PERFORMED—NO MAIL TRAIN IN THE WORLD COMPARABLE TO IT—AN OFFICIAL EXHIBIT.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE, WASHINGTON, Jan. 29, 1876.

Hon. Marshall Jewell, Postmaster General:

SIR: Being about to retire from an office in which I have labored with earnest zeal and with such efficiency as I could command for many years I deem it but just that I should speak of some of the matters of which I have had charge, that the facts in relation thereto may go to the public, as it were, in an official character.

My predecessor in office, the lamented Col. Armstrong, was the originator of the railway postal-car service in the United States, and from the date of the running of the first postal car to the time of his death gave all of his energies and all his fine executive talents to the firm establishment and extension of the system which he invented. That he thus conferred great benefits upon the country and largely increased the usefulness of the postal service, all men cheerfully agree.

Since my induction into office the policy so successfully inaugurated by my predecessor has been constantly pursued, and the postal-car service extended and improved as much as practicable; so that whereas twelve years ago there was only a single postal-car line of 140 miles in length, with one car running each way daily, there are now more than 40,000 miles upon which this service is daily performed in the United States, and 170,000 miles in route-agent cars.

But the great extension of the system, and its great value to the public, are, I believe, universally conceded. For whatever I have been able to contribute thereto, by reason of my position as Superintendent, I am largely indebted to the generous manner in which I have generally been sustained by Congress, by the department, by the press, and by the public using the mails, and also by the intelligence and efficiency with which I have been supported by my assistants and the employes under the supervision of this office. I need say nothing more, therefore, upon the general subject of the postal-car service.

There is one matter, however, with which I have been intimately connected, upon which I wish to say some few words. I refer to the "Fast Mail service," and this, because the facts in relation thereto have not been fully published in any official form, and are not correctly understood by many persons. "The Fast Mail train" has been called "a mere newspaper train," and has received other epithets which I need not mention. These things have brought about no little misapprehension as to the actual facts, which I regard it as my duty to correct. The best way to do this is by a plain statement of facts. Assuming as the mails are carried at so much per ton per mile per year, (namely, $25 per ton for all above 5,000 pounds,) the element of weights does not enter into the cost of carriage whether the mails go ten, twenty-eight, or fifty miles an hour. The only items of increase are in the railway postal-car service, for which the government pays at the following rates per mile per annum:

	Per mile.
55 or 60-foot car, per annum	$60
50-foot car, per annum	40
45-foot car, per annum	30
40-foot car, per annum	25

—and in the additional clerical force necessary by the increase of mails concentrated on the fast line. The following figures will show the increase in each of these particulars:

The New-York and Chicago line is via New York Central, Hudson River, and Lake Shore and Michigan Southern railroads.

Cost of postal car service between New-York and Buffalo, prior to Sept. 16, 1875	$24,450 00
For same service between Buffalo and Chicago, prior to Sept. 16, 1875	77,613 90
Total	$102,063 90
Present postal car service—	
Fast Mail train between New-York and Chicago	$145,542 00
Local trains—	
Between New-York and Buffalo	13,260 00
Between Buffalo and Chicago	32,138 00
Total	$190,940 00
Increase in cost of car service	88,876 10

The increase in the clerical force on the "Fast Mail" train since its inauguration, Sept. 16, 1875, is shown by the following:

Two head clerks, at $1,400	$2,800 00
Two clerks, at $1,200	2,400 00
Twenty-one assistant clerks, at $1,000	21,000 00
Total	$26,200 00

Which, added to the increase on account of postal-car service, makes a total increase on account of the "Fast Mail" train of | $115,076 10

But a great deal of this increase is apparent rather than real. The establishment of the "Fast Mail" made it practicable to reduce the number of postal cars, clerks, &c., on other lines, and the amount of this reduction is, therefore, justly to be taken from the expenses of the "Fast Mail."

The decrease in postal-car service and clerical force already made or intended at an early day, for the reason that its continuance is rendered unnecessary by the superior accommodations supplied by the "Fast Mail," is as follows:

Discontinuance of eight lines of postal cars, costing for car service alone	$51,427 71
Discontinuance of salary for postal clerks on these lines, in excess of those necessary for local service	46,400 00
Total decrease	$97,827 71

Deduct this amount from the increase chargeable by the "Fast Mail" from the increase for the "Fast Train," ($115,076 10,) as above set forth, and we have a net increase of car service paid for by the establishment of the "Fast Mail" of only | 17,248 39

The amount of service performed on the "Fast Mail train" has been all the while very great. During the months of November and December last the clerks on this train distributed mail as follows:

Sacks of paper mail distributed	60,750
Packages of letter mail	303,136
Number of pieces of paper mail, allowing 200 pieces to each sack	12,150,000
Number of pieces of letter mail, allowing 61 pieces to each package	18,188,160
Sum or of pieces of paper mail distributed each day, Sundays included	202,500
Numb r of pieces of letter mail each day, Sund ys included	303,136
Total n mber of pieces of mail distributed daily	505,636

But this is not all of the service performed by this Fast Mail train. In addition to regular mail matter, the Fast Mail Train carries great quantities of what I may call "official matters." I here refer to stamps, stamped envelopes, and postal cards—the currency of the postal service. These Government stamps are made in New York, the envelopes at Hartford, Conn., and the postal cards at Springfield, Mass. A very great proportion of all used in the United States passes over the Fast Mail Train. For the small actual increase of less than $18,000 annually, as shown above, over the expense of the slow trains of former times, we have an exclusively Government train, traveling 970 miles daily, each way, absolutely controlled by the department, run at an extremely high rate of speed, reaching by its connections and ramifications, and directly benefitting 25,000,000 people, to whom it reduces the time for the receipt and dispatch of their mail from six to twenty-four hours, according to location. I regard the value of this service to the business and the intelligence of the country as inestimable. I think it would be cheap if it cost much more than it does. Its benefits are being more and more acknowledged every day. Those who would dispute them, understanding the facts, would dispute against the sun; and with them I have no argument. I cannot speak in too high praise of the manner in which the "Government Fast Mail Train" has from the beginning been managed. There is no mail train in the world comparable to it. The locomotives and cars, manufactured at great expense by the railway companies, are used exclusively for this purpose. I regard these trains and the fidelity and efficiency with which they are conducted as a magnificent contribution to the public service. Their regularity in time, notwithstanding their high rate of speed, is something wonderful. In all the trips thus far made there has been but one train behind time, and that only eleven minutes. So much is this splendid train regarded as exclusively under Government control, that no officer of the railroads, not even Mr. Vanderbilt himself, is permitted to ride on it without the proper authority from the Post Office Department.

Such are the particular and general facts connected with the Government Fast Mail Train. I respectfully submit that they are creditable to the department and the country, and especially creditable to the railroad management.

The facts in regard to the limited mail train, which is also a fast train between New-York and Pittsburg, Cincinnati and St. Louis are also interesting. This line is by the Pennsylvania Central, Pittsburg, Cincinnati and St. Louis, and Indianapolis, Vandalia and Terre Haute Railroads. The figures showing increase of expenses as compared with slow mails are as follows: Cost of postal car service prior to Sep. 16, 1875, between New-York and Pittsburg, there being none west of Pittsburg, $17,808.

Cost of present car service—	
Between New-York and Philadelphia	$17,550 00
Between Philadelphia and Pittsburg	40,664 00
Between Pittsburg and Columbus	12,800 00
Between Columbus and Cincinnati	4,840 00
Between Cincinnati and St. Louis	17,056 00
Total	$92,910 00
Increase of clerical service:	
Between Philadelphia and Pittsburg—	
One head clerk	$1,400
Fourteen assistant clerks at $1,000	14,000—$15,400 00
Between Pittsburg and Cincinnati—	
Seven clerks at $1,200	$8,400
Four assistant clerks at $1,000	4,000— 12,400 00
Between Pittsburg and St. Louis—	
Three head clerks at $1,400	4,200
Five clerks at $1,200	6,000
Nine assistant clerks at $1,000	9,000— 19,200 00
Total	$47,600 00

But here, again, the increase of expense is by no means so great as it would appear from these figures, and from the same reason as stated above as to the "Government Fast Mail Train," namely, because the establishment of these Fast Mail Trains renders unnecessary a considerable service which otherwise would have to be performed. The fact as to these lines discontinued, or to be discontinued, are as follows:

Cost of car service on such lines	$14,300 00
Decrease of cost of clerical force	26,400 00
Total decrease	$40,700 00

Let me here give a recapitulation of cost of service on the Pennsylvania Railroad, Pittsburg, Cincinnati and St. Louis and Indianapolis, Vandalia and Terre Haute Railroads:

Cost of car service prior to Sept. 16, 1875	$17,808 00
Cost of present car service	92,910 00
Increase in cost of car service	$75,102 00
Increase in cost of clerical force	47,000 00
Total increase	$122,102 00
Decrease on other lines as above explained	$40,700 00
Net increase	$81,402 00

Let me state a few other interesting facts connected with the "Fast Mail" service. The "Government Fast Mail Train" is made up of four postal cars, and runs daily each way between New-York and Chicago, a distance of 970 miles—making 1,940 miles of daily service and 708,100 miles of annual service. This is equivalent to the service of one car (on the old style) of 7,762 miles daily, or 2,803,217 miles annually. Similar facts are true, of course, of the fast trains over the other lines, this service amounting in the aggregate to the equivalent of single-car service on 1,712,370 miles in a year. The grand total, therefore, of service (single car) is 4,545,588 miles annually. This is the magnificent contribution made by the "Fast Mail Trains" of the United States in aid of the quick dissemination of private information and public intelligence—the true object of the postal system.

I beg leave to say, in conclusion, that I am firmly convinced the Fast Mail Train was established none too soon. There have been many instances in the history of our country where private enterprise has beaten the Government in carrying mail matter; beaten it in time and in cheapness. At one time the American Express Company, from Bangor, in Maine, to Chicago, carried letters at one quarter the rate charged by the Government. A similar state of things existed for several years in that part of our country commonly called the "Pacific slope." The people are, in reality, very largely indebted to instances in which private enterprise beat the Government in carrying mail matter for cheap postage; and cheap postages are universally set down among the most valuable achievements of our Government. I know of nothing more surely calculated to maintain cheap postages on all legitimate mail matter, and in good time to reduce the rates still lower than the maintenance of a Government Fast Mail Train between the great distributing centres of the country. However this may be, it has already accomplished great good, and the continuance of the service in the same admirable manner in which it has thus far been constantly performed, must be regarded, I think, as a public necessity.

It may be said that I take a special interest in this matter because the "Fast Mail" was established during my Superintendency of the railway mail service. If any shall so think, to them I beg leave to say I may herein, as in other things, have done less than my simple duty; by no possibility could I have done more. Very respectfully, &c.,

GEORGE S. BANGS.

TAXATION OF MORTGAGES.

TO-MORROW'S CONTEST IN THE NEW-JERSEY LEGISLATURE—A QUESTION OF VITAL IMPORTANCE TO NEW-JERSEY INTERESTS.

From Our Own Correspondent.

TRENTON, Sunday, Feb. 6, 1876.

The question of taxation which is to be debated in the lower House of the Legislature on Mr. Lewis' bill exempting mortgages from taxation, is one of vital importance throughout the length and breadth of this Commonwealth, and upon the legislative action in relation to it depends the future welfare of the people. The bill attacks, it is claimed, the local interest of all the Southern and Western section of the State, while it supports and protects those of five of the upper counties, and the struggle between the sections for the mastery will be a bitter and a close one. The vote of Wednesday last, on the motion to lay the matter over, was, in a measure, a preliminary trial of strength between the contending sections. A single vote first defeated and afterward carried the motion, three members not voting, showing very clearly that neither side can count on a majority of more than two or three at the outside. On the 8th day of April, 1868, all mortgages on property in Passaic, Morris, Hudson, Union, and Essex Counties, and in the City of New-Brunswick, were exempted from taxation. In March, 1869, Morris County withdrew from the arrangement, and in the succeeding April the act itself was repealed, and a new act passed taxing mortgages, unless mortgagor and mortgagee resided in the Counties of Hudson, Union, Essex, or Passaic, or the City of New-Brunswick, and by subsequent legislation Bergen County and the township of Raritan stepped into the arrangement. The reason assigned for the passage of the act was that it would induce investors in New-York and elsewhere out of this State, to loan money on mortgages in these counties. The act remained in operation until September last, when the popular ratification of the Constitutional Amendments took place. One of these amendments provides that "Property shall be assessed for taxes under general laws and by uniform rules according to its true value." It is the opinion of most of the leading lawyers of the State—Gov. Bedle among the number—that immediately upon the adoption of the amendments the exemption was repealed.

Mr. Lewis' bill is to make exempt throughout the State mortgages that, prior to the adoption of the amendments, were exempt only in the five counties, Hudson, Bergen, Union, Passaic, and Essex. The bill, as now pending, is designed to preserve the existing condition of things in the five counties, and to secure to other parts of the State the great benefits which those counties have realized from the "Five County act." The friends of the bill are very positive in their opinion that the defeat of the act will result most disastrously to the business interests of the counties heretofore exempted. Within the exempted district is located forty-five per cent., estimated at its real value, of all real and personal property in the State, and sixty per cent. of the whole amount of the capital invested in manufactures in the State is there invested. It is estimated that at least three-quarters of the mortgages in the five counties are now due, and it is said that unless mortgages be exempted as heretofore it will be impossible for the money borrowers to renew their mortgages. The sternest opposition to the repeal of the Five County act—the strongest pressure to put it more correctly, in favor of making the act of general State significance—will come from the savings banks in the five counties. It is contended that in order to pay six per cent. to depositors and earn a small surplus to cover expenses, it is necessary that these banks should get an average of seven per cent. on all their investments. In the event of the defeat of the measure now pending, the consequent foreclosures must draw large sums from the savings banks. And if the tax on mortgages be enforced, the banks will be able to pay only five per cent. to the depositors, the result of which must be depositors will take their money to New-York banks, where it will earn six per cent.

This is the contention on behalf of the bill. The opposition will come from the counties not heretofore included within the operation of the law, while it is not impossible that Bergen, heretofore included, will join in it. The agricultural interest is opposed to it without exception. Mr. Lewis' desire on Wednesday last to force his bill through its second reading was to save it from being overloaded with amendments, that the vote on the final passage might be squarely on the issue whether mortgages shall be taxed or not. He did not succeed, however, in forcing it through its second reading, and when it is called up on Tuesday it will be open to amendment.

GRADED PRISONS.

In a communication to the Utica *Herald*, Ex-Inspector Graves throws out these suggestions: "There are at least three grades of characters among convicts. One class may be regarded incorrigible; the second class not intuitively bad, but subject to the influences which surround them; the third class are men who have no natural depravity of heart, but have fallen through bad associates and intemperate habits. These three classes should be separated in their work, as well for the interest of the State as for the reform and improvement of the convict. They should be classified. In so doing it would not be necessary to increase the number of officers for the first or worst class, and they could be lessened for the second class, and much reduced for the third class. This classification can well be made with the three prisons now in the State, leaving the Elmira Reformatory to receive such as are now designated for it by the statute. And also for such as are now in prison who may by special statute be sent to it, being of the age and class who are to receive its benefits. By this classification convict labor will be sought, and the State will get more and a higher grade of work, as none men in the first and many in the second class will endeavor by good conduct to gain the benefits of the third class. The spirit of emulation exists in as out of prison."

UGLY YOUNG MEN IN TROUBLE.

How good intentions may be misunderstood is shown by this little statement from the Baltimore *Sun*: "At a meeting of the Union of Pleasure Associations at Rechabite Hall, James B. Corbitt, presiding, Thursday night, a resolution was adopted expelling the 'Ugly Young Men's' Association for having violated the constitution by awarding a prize at their ball recently held. The prize was awarded for the ugliest young man attending the ball-room. There was no objection to the 'Ugly Young Men' themselves, but when they undertook to encourage that ugliness in the rising generation of young men the fears of the union were aroused in behalf of the ladies."

FRUITS AND FLOWERS.

DECEPTIONS OF A GREAT TRADE.

A WALK THROUGH A BROADWAY SEED AND FLOWER STORE—THE WONDERS OF THE STRAWBERRY-TREE—BLUE, BLACK, AND YELLOW ROSES—CHERRIES THE SIZE OF PEACHES—PEONIES GROWING IN BUNCHES.

The amount of money annually expended in New-York on flowers alone, exceeds $2,000,000; and for plants, fruits, &c., fully $3,000,000 more. Among the hundreds of dealers in the Metropolis, there are naturally some whose honesty is not above proof, and whose opportunities for deceiving the more ignorant portion of the public are too tempting to be passed by unimproved. The people who embark in this trade, however, are almost invariably of one class, and in their manner and method of business are totally distinct from the honorable tradesmen who constitute the great mass of florists, seedsmen, and others interested in horticulture. The dishonest dealer is almost always either a Frenchman or a German, and generally has a difficulty in making himself understood by his confiding customer. His stock is a mystery to which there is apparently no explanation. It is not so much its wonderful variety and unheard-of richness that baffles comprehension as it is the inexplicable elasticity which attaches to his prices and his descriptions. A person may negotiate with him one day for a package of asparagus seeds (warranted to produce shoots fit for the table within six weeks,) at five cents a-seed, and on returning a day or two afterward, find that the period of maturity has been increased to ninety days, and the price per seed to ten cents. The colors, sizes, and prices of the other fruits and flowers are likewise liable to similar mutations. When one buys a "blue rose" even, he is not quite certain that it will not turn into a "strawberry tree" or a "stoneless plum" before ripening. But however changeable wares of this character may be in some respects, they are always the same in regard to superiority over common varieties. It makes no difference to the "importer" that the goods he represents himself as selling are impossibilities, and are not producesble in any country—not even in that paradise to "de nord of Paress," where the florist informs you that horse-chestnuts grow ten in a pod, with a rich, yellow flower as big as a lilly blooming on the same stem. Everything that he says he vouches for, and it you presume to doubt him, there are the plants themselves and the highly-colored plates showing their appearance at maturity to bear out his statements.

A few days ago a reporter of THE TIMES, with a practical florist, entered a large store on Broadway. The room was a plain, unornamented apartment, destitute of fire and surrounded with plants, slips, and bulbs of very common appearance and high-sounding names. In the window were a dozen pears of remarkable size bearing a placard announcing that the trees themselves were to be had inside. In the same window was a pint of the common Chinese walnuts to be had at any fruit stand in the country, placarded as "a great novelty." On the walls were colored plates, representing every specimen of horticultural monstrosity imaginable. There was the "strawberry tree" already mentioned, an insignificant-looking shrub, which the salesman declared to be a genuine producer of strawberries equal in taste and flavor to the best cultivated, and in size as large as a Duchess pear. This wondertul plant bore twice during the Summer season—in June and September—and once during the Winter, (probably at Christmas.) It could be brought on the table in the common earthenware flower-pot and handed around to the guests, who would thus be enabled to pick their own dessert from the tree in mid-Winter. Its price was only $10. Everything that the salesman said was corroborated by a fat Frenchman in a blue blouse, who enacted the rôle of gardener to the establishment, and to whom the salesman appealed whenever he became entangled in his descriptions. After a few moments' spent in further admiration of the wonderful "strawberry tree," the salesman turned to some young apple trees, and pointing to the plates over them, announced that it was the "Beautiful Venuosa," a fruit worth $2. Its color was red and green. The fruit (on the plate) looked certainly well. In bulk it was considerably larger than the 20-ounce pippin, and in color resembled a green ball covered with red blotches. The tree itself looked very much like those sold in the market at thirty-seven cents a piece. In peaches this dealer had the "monstors of Paress," price $2, and he pointed to a colored engraving of something not unlike a huge soda biscuit burned on both sides, as a sample. Ordinary peach-trees are sold by regular dealers at thirty cents. An apricot beside the wonderful peach was then pointed out. Its color was purple, and it was described in the catalogue: "No. 1 apricot, without like." In the drawings of cherries which appeared next, the fruit was represented as of the size of ordinary peaches. Fig-trees were offered for sale which would infallibly bear figs weighing four to the pound. The "large chestnut-tree," appropriately styled on the catalogue an "extra" variety, was next shown, together with the plate already alluded to, in which the nuts were represented as growing in large pods, ten to the pod, with an enormous red and yellow flower growing on the stem overhead. It was hard to say which was the most tempting, the chestnuts "in the pod," or the nuge parti-colored flowers waving over them. The price of this plant was $3, and there were two varieties from which the buyer could choose.

Next came the common Chinese walnut, styled on the catalogue "Chinese novelty of very great importance for our gardens—very big fruit with a very thick pulp; delicious, its shape perfect." The price of this precious fruit, which can be bought in the market for a few cents a quart, was the modest sum of $4. The currant bushes, being only warranted to grow fruit as large as grapes, were passed by as a "novelize" of comparatively little importance. The gardener and his assistant then came to the gooseberry section, the fruit whereof was pictured on the plates as big as hen's eggs, and of red, white, green, and other colors. The raspberries, of which there were four "extra" varieties on hand, were yellow and red in color, and also as large as hen's eggs.

But the strong point of the establishment was what the catalogue termed its New Rose Bushes. The second on the list is a tolerable specimen of its class, and reads as follows:

2. Arlequin, (Taillandier,) vigorous shrub, large, full red flower, very singular variety by his striped leaves, gold-yellow in dark green.

The "striped" rose is well in its way, but the "blue" variety more than equals even that. The salesman and his gardener were somewhat bashful about showing this; possibly from certain strictures on the subject which appeared in THE TIMES of a recent date, but they were at length persuaded, and the plant and engraving were displayed to view. The former was common enough in shape and size, but the picture of the full blown blue rose was a sight to be remembered. It was a singular plant, and was thought by the spectators to be the most marvellous thing in that line which even the genius of the strawberry-tree vender could produce. They were doomed to disappointment, however. The clerk waved his hand toward the plates and exhibited the pictures of green and black roses. The list of ten roses was quite long, and included a "copper-colored" specimen of high-sounding name and huge proportions. The "spotted" roses, which in respect to singularity come next to the "striped," embrace several varieties, and the "Moos roses" (moss roses) include some seventeen species, of which the "speckled rose, with a black centre," is the most remarkable. It looked very much like a warped tiger-lily, and was admitted by the gardener to be rare, even for a "novelize." The species of the *Azalea Indica* exhibited must have been an extraordinary curiosity if it ever arrived at perfection. In the engraving it was pictured from ten to twenty times the size heretofore occupied by botanists. The plates representing peonies, which hung alongside, were of similar colossal proportions, representing that flower as growing in bunches seven inches in diameter. A neighboring illustration of the *Amaryllis* presented that useful plant in absurd sizes and colors, as well as in unheard-of arrangement of flowers. Close at hand the *Wisteria* was pictured in yellow and scarlet, thirty times the natural size, and guaranteed to be fragrant, although in all cases heretofore recorded the plant is classed as "unfragrant." A long list of similar monstrosities were exposed for sale at six and seven times the prices of varieties known to the market.

Members of the Horticultural Society who are cognizant of the workings of this class of dealers say that the business has been an exceedingly profitable one, and has been carried on with impunity for a number of years past. The head of a large seed firm in Cortlandt street recently informed the reporter that he had first encountered them in 1869, when a house very similar to the one on Broadway leased a store in that street. As fast as their system was exposed they moved to other localities, where a fresh harvest awaited them. A prominent wholesale merchant who purchased a bill of their peculiar goods valued at $400, and who subsequently discovered their real character, gave them the alternative of taking their plants back or waiting for payment until they had reached full growth and produced the marvels guaranteed. The most singular feature of the transaction was that the merchant in question had the reputation of an excellent amateur florist, and had been more or less interested in horticulture for thirty years. As stated in THE TIMES of Thursday, the Horticultural Society has taken steps to put a stop to the business, so that lovers of "striped roses," &c., would do well to lay in a large stock without delay.

A POST OFFICE THEFT.

ARREST OF A COLLECTOR OF STATION E—HUNDREDS OF OPENED LETTERS FOUND IN HIS ROOM—HIS METHOD OF STEALING.

Petty thefts in the Post Office Department of this City have not been by any means of frequent occurrence, and such as have occurred have always been successfully traced and the guilty party sooner or later brought to grief. Innumerable complaints are daily received, and each is carefully investigated, and the large majority are found to be groundless. With a force of 429 carriers and collectors, selected with every precaution as to honesty and ability, it is not strange that once in a while one is met with who will open, rob, and destroy letters intrusted to his care temporarily, without regard to their nature. For nearly two months past the authorities in this City have been much excited over the many and oft repeated complaints of letters non-delivered, all or nearly all centring in a route in Station E. The matter was finally placed in the hands of Special Agent Sharrett, and at the same time detective officers were detailed to watch the collectors on suspected routes in that district. Nothing was accomplished by the latter, but upon Saturday last Mr. Sharrett, after devoting his whole time for three or four weeks to the subject, cleared up the whole mystery. As a result Morris Bissinsky, a young man about twenty-five years of age and a collector in Station E, and very respectably connected in this City, was arrested that day on a charge of robbing the mails and lodged in the First Precinct Station-house.

The circumstances of the case, as related to a TIMES reporter by Special Agent Sharrett, are as follows: Bissinsky has been an employe of the department in various positions for over two years, and his honesty has never until lately been called into question. Latterly he has been employed at Station E in collecting letters from the boxes, and from the route he held complaints have been continually received for from six weeks to two months past. After a time suspicion naturally attached to him, but no positive proof against him could be found. While this investigation was going on, it was charged that Bissinsky had left a box open on his route, and he was suspended. The charge being found groundless, he was reinstated, but as a test, was then placed on a route in the upper part of the district. For a time everything went on well, but only for a few days, when the old complaints of missing letters on this route began to pour in as of old. Still nothing could be found to positively identify Bissinsky as the guilty party. Last Saturday a registered letter was missed from the table in Station E. He was seen at the table shortly before, but passed out and went on his route before it was missed. Upon his return to the station, Superintendent Arthur Shook charged him with having stolen the letter, and despite his loud protestations of innocence, he was sent in charge of Mr. Anderson, the Assistant Superintendent, to Special Agent Sharrett, where he again protested his innocence. Mr. Sharrett took him into the private room, and soon obtained a full confession from him, which he gave without any seeming regret for the inconvenience and pain which the non-delivery of letters must have occasioned.

Bissinsky stated that he did take the registered letter from the table in the station, although it was against the rules for him to go into that department. Upon leaving the station he tore the envelope up and threw it away, putting the letter and inclosure in his pocket. This was not found upon him when brought to the Special Agent's office, and he explained that while conversing with Mr. Anderson on the way down town he had managed to get it out of his pocket and all to pieces in the folds of a valise, and tearing the whole in two threw both out of the car window without attracting notice. There was money in the letter, he said, but the amount or to whom addressed he could not state. This, of course, can be easily ascertained when required. Mr. Sharrett also accused him of having been robbing the letter-boxes on his route, and this he then also admitted. Mr. Sharrett proposed to immediately search his house, when the prisoner piteously begged that they should not do so, as it would kill his parents. He said he had some few letters there, and would go up and get them himself, but this offer was refused, and Officer Blackwood, detailed for duty in the Post Office building, was called upon to go with him. Then Bissinsky stated that he was not living at home, but with a lady on Eighth avenue, and the two then went to this house. Officer Blackwood took with him a large leather mail-sack, and brought this back full of mutilated letters, over a thousand in number, many of them torn into fragments. Before this he undertook to state how much money he had taken out of the letters, the robbing of which he said he had begun about New-Year's, but he could only count up between two and three hundred dollars, in sums ranging from one to fifty dollars. He afterward stated that as far as possible he had destroyed all the checks and money orders as of no value to him, and that the few found in the *débris* had been overlooked. It had been his intention to destroy all not containing money. After the letters had been brought to the Special Agent's office Bissinsky stated that he had given the lady with whom he boarded, and a certain girl whom he called upon, many articles, such as dress, scarfs, gloves, laces, &c., which he had taken from letters, and Officer Blackwood, upon visiting these parties, recovered a number of them. Both ladies stated that they had received others, but that they had been worn out or given away. The lady with whom he lived in Eighth avenue stated that he had never given her more than his room to clean in, although she never suspected anything wrong, and it is not believed that he had any confederate in the wholesale robbery he has been carrying on. Bissinsky was detained over yesterday at the First Precinct Station-house. He will be brought before one of the United States Commissioners this morning for examination.

The scene in Special Agent Sharrett's room yesday was a novel one for the place. The floor was strewn with letters, some whole, some partially torn, and the fragments of many others. All day long Superintendent Youmans and Assistant Superintendent John Brady were busily engaged in sorting these, replacing in their proper envelopes such as could possibly be forwarded to their address. He probably will be able to so dispatch about two-thirds of the number found. The number taken from the boxes never can be ascertained, as Bissinsky states himself that many were torn up in the street and thrown away, and others burned in his room. The far greater majority found are unstamped, the few stamped ones showing conclusively, however, that he robbed the station itself as well as the boxes on his route. The envelopes all appear to have been opened in a business-like manner, cut open with a knife, examined and thrown aside, to be destroyed apparently when circumstances would permit. Much of the correspondence is of a nature the failure to receive which must have caused much pain and disappointment—that of anxious parents and dutiful children, of trusting lovers, &c., and many business communications and orders. Many had evidently contained remittances of money checks, or money orders, the amount of which cannot be at present ascertained. The latter were generally destroyed, but among the letters were found the following: A check of Nancy A. Hartt to A. T. Stewart for $27 12; a certificate of deposit on the Trades Bank of $100 to the credit of Annie S. Watson, payable to O. K. Oler; money order from Station A, payable at Philadelphia, for $25, and one from Station G, payable at Toledo, Ohio, for $40. Probably other checks will be found in the pile of fragments which have not yet been examined. Among the letters are many dated early in December, showing that Bissinsky's story that he began his operations in January cannot be true. He did not seem at any time to try to discriminate as to the letters containing money, but took all as they came, never passing those bulky in appearance, as could be judged by the quantity of ladies' goods, photographs, &c., piled upon the agent's table.

REVIVAL MEETINGS IN NEW-JERSEY.

President McCosh, of Princeton, having invited Messrs. Moody and Sankey to assist in the revival in progress in the college, those gentlemen yesterday officiated in the chapel of the college. In the afternoon and evening the revivalists held services in the church adjoining the college grounds, which were largely attended. A revival is in progress throughout all parts of the State. In the Methodist Episcopal Church in Communipaw, Rev. Mr. Wickes led the services. The two Methodist Churches in Tottenville have been laboring with good results. In the First Reformed Church, in New-Brunswick, union services were held, and addressed by Rev. Dr. Woodbridge. In Newark nineteen persons have professed conversion in the Bergen Methodist Episcopal Church. In Paterson revival services are in progress in the Cross Street Methodist Episcopal Church. Yesterday afternoon the Wesley Praying Band of Young Men held services in the Prospect M. E. Church. In Lambertville, between twenty and thirty have been baptized. Rev. Thomas Vason, of Flemington, has effected the conversion of thirty persons within a few days. The revival in the Clinton Street M. E. Church in Newark is still in progress, and since Mrs. Van Cott left, more than twenty converts have been made. The revival in the First Baptist Church, which has been in progress for a fortnight past, will probably close this week. A great religious demonstration will be made on Sunday next in the Wigwam in Paterson.

ARRIVALS AT THE HOTELS.

Gen. William Mahone, of Virginia, is at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

United States District Attorney Anthony Higgins, of Delaware, is at the Albemarle Hotel.

Right Hon. Hugh C. E. Childers, M. P., President, and Frederick Broughton, General Manager, of the Great Western Railway of Canada, are at the Brevoort House.

CITY AND SUBURBAN NEWS.

NEW-YORK.

The Cunard steam-ship Parthia, which left Liverpool on Jan. 22 and Queenstown Jan. 23, reached this port yesterday with mail news later by two days.

Henry Burhance, employed in the Buckingham Hotel, was severely injured about the head yesterday by attempting to get off the hotel elevator while it was in motion.

Joseph Keen, who for a number of years was connected with the different departments of the Commission of Charities and Correction, died on Saturday morning at 9 o'clock.

Barbara Fries, an aged German woman, living at No. 126 Broome street, was committed by Justice Kasmire, at the Essex Market Police Court, on Saturday, for keeping a policy shop.

Julius Goldsmidt, proprietor of a concert saloon at No. 33 Bowery, was held for trial on Saturday, by Justice Kasmire, for selling liquor in connection with a theatrical entertainment, in violation of the statute.

Robert Kennedy, of No. 447 East Eleventh street, was arraigned before Justice Kasmire, at the Essex Market Police Court, yesterday, and committed in default of $1,000 bail to answer for violation of the Lottery law.

Nathan Coffey, a boy eleven years of age, was committed on Saturday by Justice Kasmire, at the Essex Market Police Court, on the charge of obtaining $25 from Mr. Daniel N. Smith, a grocer, by means of a forged check.

Joseph Whelan, a resident of Brooklyn, formerly in the employ of William Kelly, a harness-maker at No. 487 Greenwich street, was held at the Tombs Police Court on Saturday for forging Mr. Kelly's name to orders for four sides of leather presented to David Moffet, of No. 5 Jacob street.

George Redmond, who on Saturday night severely stabbed Frank Henry, of No. 153 West Broadway, while engaged in a drunken dispute in Henry Gibbons' saloon, No. 1½ Thompson street, was yesterday arraigned before Justice Duffy, at the Washington Place Police Court, and committed without bail to await the result of Henry's injuries.

Matthew McAlier, of No. 422 West Fifty-sixth street, while engaged in a dispute with his step-brother, Thomas Marlin, of No. 92 Tenth avenue, yesterday, seized a sharp table-knife and struck the latter twice, inflicting two terrible wounds in his cheek and forehead. At the Washington Place Police Court Justice Duffy committed McAlier without bail to answer.

John Goodrich, of No. 107 South Fifth street, Williamsburg, was yesterday held for trial by Justice Bixby, at the Tombs Police Court, on the charge of perjury, he having, as is alleged, given bail bonds under the name of Charles Anton, to secure the release of a woman named Carrie Bartell, who was committed for disorderly conduct on Jan. 19, by Justice Kilbreth.

A lecture will be delivered this evening by Prof. Theodore W. Dwight, at the Law School of Columbia College, No. 8 Great Jones street, on the subject of "Education in law schools as compared with that obtained in law offices." The lecturer will consider the propriety of conceding to the law schools the right of examination of law students prior to their admission to the bar.

The announcement in THE TIMES yesterday morning that the Moody and Sankey meetings would begin this evening at 7 o'clock was incorrect. The doors will not be opened until 7:30 o'clock, and the services will begin at 8. The managers urge people not to collect about the doors too long before the time announced for opening them, in order that there may be as little confusion as possible.

John J. Russo, a cook, living in Brooklyn, was held at the Tombs Police Court on Saturday, on a charge of burglariously entering the umbrella store of Baker & Eaton, of No. 60 Walker street, on last Friday night. On Friday night, and attempting to steal about $3,000 worth of silk. In entering a window of the store he sounded a burglar-alarm and was captured. He was held for trial at the Court of General Sessions.

At the Tombs Police Court on Saturday, George Wright, a guest at the Stevens House, charged Lizzie Miller, of No. 122 Bleecker street, and Maggie Thompson, of No. 142 West Twenty-third street, with having robbed him of about $100, on last Friday night. He could not prove positively that he had the money with him at the time he met the women, and they were committed as disorderly persons.

A number of Swiss gentlemen met yesterday afternoon at Teutonia Assembly Rooms for the purpose of organizing a Swiss Political Union, the object of which should be to aid all Swiss immigrants to the City to obtain their naturalization papers and elective franchise. Politically the new organization will maintain an independent position, supporting candidates according to their capabilities and fitness for office rather than their party principles.

Thomas Ely, a driver in the employ of Philip Hone, a bottler of cider at Nos. 39 and 34 Vesey street, was placed on trial Saturday in the Court of Special Sessions on a charge of knocking out an eye of one of his employer's horses while driving a span of them down Third avenue. It seems that Ely struck the horse a blow on the head with the butt end of a whip because the team started off on his dropping the whip. He was sentenced to ten days' imprisonment and to pay a fine of $10.

The following persons were committed for trial by Justice Duffy, who presided at the Washington Place Police Court on Saturday: Ellen Morgan and Frank Hughes, larceny of a shawl from Mary Ann O'Conner, of No. 423 West Thirty second street; Eli Williams, a waiter to Mrs. Henrietta A. Grow, of No. 69 Madison avenue, stealing $31 from his mistress; H. Waterlice, cruelty to a horse; Julius Bindendrick, of No. 122 Avenue A; John Herselman, of No. 609 East Ninth street, and Frederick Scroder, of No. 396 East Eighth street, selling adulterated milk.

Final arrangements were completed yesterday for a billiard contest between Albert Garnier and William Sexton, and Cyrille Dion and Joseph Dion, for a prize of $1,000. The game will be French carons, 2,000 points up, divided into four parts of 500 each, and will begin at Tammany Hall on the evening of Monday, March 13, continuing four evenings. Two of the competitors, on opposite sides, will open the game and play until one of the contestants has scored 500 points. The successful party will, however, be allowed to finish his run. On the following evening the other players will contest a game, beginning where the preceding parties closed on the previous night, and will alternate in this manner until the close of the game.

Following is an abstract of the report of the Central Park Meteorological Observatory for the week ending at 1 P. M. Saturday: Barometer—Mean, 30.135 inches; maximum, 1 P. M., Feb. 5, 30.858 inches; minimum, 5 A. M., Feb. 2, 28.938 inches; range, 1.920 inches. Thermometer—Mean, 25.8°; maximum, 3